

11. The Respondent TD\*X is a “person” as defined by 30 T.A.C. § 3.2 (25) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10], and Section 1004 (15) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903 (15).

12. “Owner” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(108) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as “the person who owns a facility or part of a facility.”

13. “Operator” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(107) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as “the person responsible for the overall operation of a facility”.

14. “Owner or operator” is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 270.2 as “the owner or operator of any facility or activity subject to regulation under RCRA.”

15. “Facility” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(59) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as meaning “all contiguous land, and structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land, used for storing, processing, or disposing of municipal hazardous waste or industrial solid waste. A facility may consist of several treatment, storage, or disposal operational units (e.g., one or more landfills, surface impoundments, or combinations of them).”

16. The Respondent USET owns and operates a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facility located at 3327 County Road 69, Robstown, TX 78380, EPA I.D. No. TXD069452340, Permit No. HW-50052-001.

17. The TSD identified in Paragraph 16 is a “facility” as that term is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(59) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].

18. The Respondent USET is the “owner” and/or “operator” of the facility identified in Paragraph 16, as those terms are defined in 30 TAC § 335.1(107) & (108) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] and 40 C.F.R. § 270.2.

19. An oil reclamation unit is located at the facility identified in Paragraph 16.

20. The Respondent TD\*X owns and operates a thermal desorption unit (TDU), as well as the feed preparation system that includes a shaker tank (T-30), three mix tanks (T-31, T-32, and T-33), a centrifuge, and a surge tank (T-34) at the oil reclamation unit.

21. The Respondent TD\*X began operating the TDU and related equipment on or about June 15, 2008.

22. On or about June 8 – 11, 2010, June 14 – 17, 2010, and August 9 – 11, 2010, the Respondent USET's TSD facility and the oil reclamation unit were inspected by representatives of EPA pursuant to Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927.

## **B. VIOLATIONS**

### **Count One – Processing Hazardous Waste Without a Permit or Interim Status**

23. Pursuant to Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e), and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)], a RCRA permit or interim status is required for the processing (treatment),<sup>1</sup> storage, or disposal of hazardous waste.

24. “Hazardous waste” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3] as “any solid waste identified or listed as a hazardous waste by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency in accordance with the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 United States Code, §§ 6901 *et seq.*”

25. “Recyclable materials” is defined in 30 T.A.C. §335.24(a) [40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(1)] as “hazardous wastes that are recycled”.

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<sup>1</sup> The Texas Administrative Code uses the term “processing” instead of “treatment”. The term “processing” as used by Texas is essentially equivalent to the term “treatment” as used in the federal statute and regulations.

26. The Respondent USET receives “hazardous waste” from off-site generators, as that term is defined by 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3].

27. The Respondent USET receives “recyclable materials” from off-site generators, as that term is defined by 30 T.A.C. § 335.24(a) [40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(1)].

28. Recyclable materials destined for oil reclamation are transferred to the Respondent TD\*X by the Respondent USET.

29. Processing (treatment) is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(122) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as follows:

The extraction of materials, transfer, volume reduction, conversion to energy, or other separation and preparation of solid waste for reuse or disposal, including the treatment or neutralization of solid waste or hazardous waste, designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any solid waste or hazardous waste so as to neutralize such waste, or so as to recover energy or material from the waste or so as to render such waste nonhazardous, or less hazardous; safer to transport, store or dispose of; or amenable for recovery, amenable for storage, or reduced in volume. The transfer of solid waste for reuse or disposal as used in this definition does not include the actions of a transporter in conveying or transporting solid waste by truck, ship, pipeline, or other means. Unless the executive director determines that regulation of such activity is necessary to protect human health or the environment, the definition of processing does not include activities relating to those materials exempted by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency in accordance with the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 United States Code, §§6901 *et seq.*, as amended.

30. On various dates after June 15, 2008, certain recyclable materials were processed in the tanks identified in Paragraph 20.

31. The recyclable materials identified in Paragraph 30 did not meet the exemption in 30 T.A.C. § 335.24(c)(4)(C) [40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C) because the hazardous wastes were not “oil-bearing hazardous wastes from petroleum refining, production, and transportation practices.”

32. The Respondent TD\*X processed (treated) hazardous waste as that term is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(122) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] in the tanks identified in Paragraph 20.

33. To date, neither the Respondent USED nor Respondent TD\*X has applied for nor received a RCRA permit or interim status to allow the processing (treatment) of hazardous waste in the tanks identified in Paragraph 20.

34. Therefore, the Respondent USET and the Respondent TD\*X have violated Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e), and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)] by processing (treating) hazardous waste without a RCRA permit or interim status.

**Count Two – Processing Hazardous Waste Without a Permit or Interim Status**

35. Pursuant to Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e), and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)], a RCRA permit or interim status is required for the processing (treatment), storage, or disposal of hazardous waste.

36. “Hazardous waste” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3] as “any solid waste identified or listed as a hazardous waste by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency in accordance with the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 United States Code, §§ 6901 *et seq.*”

37. “Recyclable materials” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.24(a) [40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(1)] as “hazardous wastes that are recycled”.

38. The Respondent USET receives “hazardous waste” from off-site generators, as that term is defined by 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3].



39. The Respondent USET receives “recyclable materials” from off-site generators, as that term is defined by 30 T.A.C. § 335.24(a) [40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(1)].

40. Recyclable materials destined for oil reclamation are transferred to the Respondent TD\*X by the Respondent USET.

41. On various dates after June 15, 2008, certain recyclable materials were fed into the TDU that did not meet the exemption in 30 T.A.C. § 335.24(c)(4)(C) [40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C) because the hazardous wastes were not “oil-bearing hazardous wastes from petroleum refining, production, and transportation practices.”

42. Processing (treatment) is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(122) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as follows:

The extraction of materials, transfer, volume reduction, conversion to energy, or other separation and preparation of solid waste for reuse or disposal, including the treatment or neutralization of solid waste or hazardous waste, designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any solid waste or hazardous waste so as to neutralize such waste, or so as to recover energy or material from the waste or so as to render such waste nonhazardous, or less hazardous; safer to transport, store or dispose of; or amenable for recovery, amenable for storage, or reduced in volume. The transfer of solid waste for reuse or disposal as used in this definition does not include the actions of a transporter in conveying or transporting solid waste by truck, ship, pipeline, or other means. Unless the executive director determines that regulation of such activity is necessary to protect human health or the environment, the definition of processing does not include activities relating to those materials exempted by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency in accordance with the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 United States Code, §§6901 *et seq.*, as amended.

43. Thermal processing (thermal treatment) is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(149) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as follows:

the processing of solid waste or hazardous waste in a device which uses elevated temperatures as the primary means to change the chemical, physical, or biological character or composition of the solid waste or hazardous waste. Examples of thermal processing are incineration, molten salt, pyrolysis, calcination, wet air

oxidation, and microwave discharge. (See also “incinerator” and “open burning.”).

44. The TDU uses heat from an indirect heated rotary dryer to separate the organic constituents from the hazardous waste feed material. A nitrogen carrier gas is used to transfer the vapor phase organic constituents to a gas treatment system. The oil is recovered by condensing vapor phase organic constituents in the gas treatment system. A portion of the TDU’s recirculating nitrogen carrier gas, along with non-condensable gases, is vented, filtered, and then injected into the combustion chamber of the TDU, where it is burned.

45. The separation of the organic constituents from the hazardous waste in the TDU’s indirectly heated rotary dryer constitutes thermal processing (thermal treatment) as that term is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(149) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].

46. To date, neither the Respondent USET nor Respondent TD\*X has applied for nor received a RCRA permit or interim status to allow the thermal processing (thermal treatment) of hazardous waste in the TDU.

47. Therefore, the Respondent USET and the Respondent TD\*X have violated Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e), and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)] by thermally processing (thermally treating) hazardous waste without a RCRA permit or interim status.

### **Count Three - Processing Hazardous Waste Without a Permit or Interim Status**

48. Pursuant to Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e), and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)], a RCRA permit or interim status is required for the processing (treatment), storage, or disposal of hazardous waste.

49. “Hazardous waste” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3] as “any solid waste identified or listed as a hazardous waste by the administrator of the United States

Environmental Protection Agency in accordance with the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 United States Code, §§ 6901 *et seq.*”

50. The Respondent USET receives “hazardous waste” from off-site generators, as that term is defined by 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3].

51. Hazardous wastes destined for oil reclamation are transferred to the Respondent TD\*X by the Respondent USET.

52. On various dates after June 15, 2008, hazardous wastes were fed into the TDU.

53. The TDU uses heat from an indirect heated rotary dryer to separate the organic constituents from the hazardous waste feed material. A nitrogen carrier gas is used to transfer the vapor phase organic constituents to a gas treatment system. The oil is recovered by condensing vapor phase organic constituents in the gas treatment system. A portion of the TDU’s recirculating nitrogen carrier gas, along with non-condensable gases, is vented, filtered, and then injected into the combustion chamber of the TDU, where it is burned.

54. Processing (treatment) is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(122) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as follows:

The extraction of materials, transfer, volume reduction, conversion to energy, or other separation and preparation of solid waste for reuse or disposal, including the treatment or neutralization of solid waste or hazardous waste, designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any solid waste or hazardous waste so as to neutralize such waste, or so as to recover energy or material from the waste or so as to render such waste nonhazardous, or less hazardous; safer to transport, store or dispose of; or amenable for recovery, amenable for storage, or reduced in volume. The transfer of solid waste for reuse or disposal as used in this definition does not include the actions of a transporter in conveying or transporting solid waste by truck, ship, pipeline, or other means. Unless the executive director determines that regulation of such activity is necessary to protect human health or the environment, the definition of processing does not include activities relating to those materials exempted by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency in

accordance with the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 United States Code, §§6901 *et seq.*, as amended.

55. Thermal processing (thermal treatment) is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(149)

[40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as follows:

the processing of solid waste or hazardous waste in a device which uses elevated temperatures as the primary means to change the chemical, physical, or biological character or composition of the solid waste or hazardous waste. Examples of thermal processing are incineration, molten salt, pyrolysis, calcination, wet air oxidation, and microwave discharge. (See also “incinerator” and “open burning.”)

56. The burning of gases in the TDU’s combustion chamber constitutes thermal processing (thermal treatment) as that term is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(149)

[40 C.F.R. § 260.10].

57. The combustion chamber of the TDU is an enclosed device that uses controlled flame combustion.

58. The combustion chamber of the TDU does not meet the criteria for classification as a boiler, sludge dryer, or carbon regeneration unit, nor is listed as an industrial furnace; nor meets the definition of infrared incinerator or plasma arc incinerator.”

59. To date, neither the Respondent USET nor Respondent TD\*X has applied for nor received a RCRA permit or interim status to allow the thermal processing (thermal treatment) of hazardous waste in the combustion chamber of the TDU.

60. Therefore, the Respondent USET and the Respondent TD\*X have violated and continue to violate Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e) and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)] by thermally processing (thermally treating) hazardous waste without a RCRA permit or interim status.

**Count Four – Storing Hazardous Waste Without a Permit Or Interim Status**

61. Pursuant to Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e), and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)], a RCRA permit or interim status is required for the processing (treatment), storage, or disposal of hazardous waste.

62. “Storage” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(143) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10] as “the holding of solid waste for a temporary period, at the end of which the waste is processed, disposed of, recycled, or stored elsewhere.”

63. Between on or about March 9, 2010, and June 11, 2010, the Respondent USET stored roll-off boxes in the area called the “Y” at the facility.

64. The roll-off boxes identified in Paragraph 63 contained material which had entered the oil reclamation process and was being temporarily staged before undergoing subsequent stages of the reclamation process. The Respondent USET discontinued the use of the area called the “Y” for this purpose.

65. “Hazardous waste” is defined in 30 T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3] as “any solid waste identified or listed as a hazardous waste by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency in accordance with the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 United States Code, §§ 6901 *et seq.*”

66. The roll-off boxes identified in Paragraph 63 contained “hazardous waste” as that term is defined in T.A.C. § 335.1(69) [40 C.F.R. § 261.3].

67. The Respondent USET had not applied for nor received a RCRA permit or interim status to allow the storage of hazardous waste at the area called the “Y”.

68. Therefore, the Respondent USET has violated Sections 3005(a) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and (e), and 30 T.A.C. § 335.43(a) [40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b)] by storing hazardous waste without a RCRA permit or interim status.

### **III. COMPLIANCE ORDER**

69. Pursuant to Section 3008(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), the Respondents are hereby **ORDERED** to take the following actions and provide evidence of compliance within the time period specified below:

#### **A. Interim Operating Requirements**

1. As of the effective date of this CAFO, feedstock for the oil reclamation unit shall consist only of non-hazardous waste, and oil-bearing hazardous waste from petroleum refining, production, and transportation practices. Oil-bearing hazardous waste from petroleum refining, production, or transportation practices includes the following listed hazardous waste from specific Petroleum Refining Sources (K049, K050, K051, K052, K169, and K170). Also acceptable is oil-bearing hazardous waste from processes which meet the definition of the following Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes and corresponding North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes (i.e., petroleum refining, production, and transportation practices) as follows:

<b>SIC Code</b>	<b>SIC Description</b>	<b>NAICS Code</b>	<b>NAICS Title</b>
1311	Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas	211111	Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Extraction
1321	Natural Gas Liquids	211112	Natural Gas Liquid Extraction
1381	Drilling Oil & Gas Wells	213111	Drilling Oil and Gas Wells
1382	Oil & Gas Field Exploration Services (except geophysical mapping & surveying)	213112	Support Activities for Oil & Gas Operations
1389	Oil and Gas Field Services, NEC (except construction of field gathering lines, site	213112	Support Activities for Oil and Gas Operations

	preparation and related construction activities performed on a contract or fee basis)		
2911	Petroleum Refining	324110	Petroleum Refineries
4612	Crude Petroleum Pipelines	486110	Pipeline Transportation of Crude Oil
4613	Refined Petroleum Pipelines	486910	Pipeline Transportation of Refined Petroleum Products
4789	Transportation Services, NEC (pipeline terminals and stockyards for transportation)	488999	All Other Support Activities for Transportation
4922	Natural Gas Transmission	486210	Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas
4923	Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution (distribution)	221210	Natural Gas Distribution
4923	Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution (transmission)	486210	Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas
5171	Petroleum Bulk Stations and Terminals (except petroleum sold via retail method)	488999	All Other Support Activities for Transportation
5172	Petroleum and Petroleum Products Wholesalers, Except Bulk Stations and Terminals (merchant wholesalers)	424720	Petroleum and Petroleum Products Merchant Wholesalers (except Bulk Stations and Terminals)

2. Using feedstock from processes meeting the definition of the aforementioned SIC/NAICS Codes does not constitute compliance with 40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C) or this CAFO. The Respondents are required to make a separate determination whether the hazardous waste in question is “oil-bearing,” and that the hazardous waste was originally generated from petroleum refining, production, or transportation practices.

3. As of the effective date of this CAFO, when the dryer feed is on, the Respondents shall operate the TDU in accordance with the interim operating parameters set forth in Appendix 1, Table A, which is attached and incorporated by reference into this CAFO. The Blending Protocols referenced in Appendix 1 is attached as Appendix 2, and incorporated by reference into this CAFO.



4. As of the effective date of this CAFO, Respondents shall comply with the Start-Up, Shutdown, and Malfunction Plan (SSM Plan) (CDT Plan, Appendix E). The Compliance Demonstration Test (CDT) Plan is attached as Appendix 3 and incorporated by reference into the CAFO.

5. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents shall conduct a tune-up of the external combustion chamber of the TDU in accordance with the following requirements:

a. As applicable, inspect the burner and clean or replace any components of the burner as necessary. The burner inspection may be delayed until the next scheduled or unscheduled unit shutdown.

b. Inspect the flame pattern, as applicable, and adjust the burner as necessary to optimize the flame pattern. The adjustment should be consistent with the manufacturer's specification.

c. Inspect the system controlling the air-to-fuel ratio, as applicable, and ensure that it is correctly calibrated and functioning properly.

d. Optimize total emissions of carbon monoxide (CO). This optimization should be consistent with the manufacturer's specifications, if available.

e. Measure the concentrations in the effluent stream of CO in parts per million, by volume, and oxygen in volume percent, before and after the adjustments are made.

Measurements may be either on a dry or wet basis, as long as it is the same basis before and after the adjustments are made.

f. Perform sampling and analysis of both dryer furnace stacks using Method TO-15, "Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) In Air Collected In Specially-Prepared Canisters And Analyzed By Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS)". If the total



organic matter result is greater than 10 ppmV for either stack, the analysis shall include speciation of the gas. This information shall be included in the report required in Paragraph 69.A.5.g below.

g. Maintain on-site a report documenting the concentrations of CO in the effluent stream in parts per million by volume, and oxygen in volume present, measured before and after the adjustments of the external combustion chamber of the TDU, and a description of any corrective actions taken as part of the combustion adjustment.

h. Subsequent tune-ups shall be conducted annually until the TDU is reconfigured.

6. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents shall conduct a fuel specification analysis of the purge vent gas for mercury and document that it does not exceed the maximum concentration of 40 micrograms/cubic meter of mercury using test methods ASTM D5954, ASTM D6350, ISO 6978-1:2003(E), or ISO 6978-2:2003(E), or an alternate test method approved by EPA. If the concentration of mercury exceeds 40 micrograms/cubic meter, the Respondents shall immediately notify EPA.

7. Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents shall install, monitor, and operate an automatic hazardous waste feed cutoff (AWFCO) at the TDU in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 63.1206(c)(3)(ii) and (iv) that immediately and automatically cuts off the hazardous waste feed when any component of the AWFCO system fails, or when one or more of the interim operating parameters set forth in Appendix 1, Table A that are designated as AWFCO parameters are not met. The Respondents shall also comply with the investigation, recordkeeping, testing, and reporting requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 63.1206(c)(3)(v), (vi) and (vii).

8. Within one year of the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents shall reconfigure the TDU so that the non-condensable vent gases are routed to a thermal oxidizing unit (TOU)

instead of the combustion chamber of the TDU (Reconfigured TDU). After reconfiguration, fuel for the TDU is limited to natural gas and propane.

9. The Respondents shall operate the Reconfigured TDU during the shakedown period in accordance with the operating parameters limits set forth in Appendix 1, Table B when the dryer feed is on. The Respondent shall not operate the Reconfigured TDU more than 720 hours (including the shakedown period and the Compliance Demonstration Test). The Respondents shall keep records of the hours of operation during the shakedown period. The Respondents shall operate a continuous emissions monitor system (CEMS) for carbon monoxide (CO) for the TOU during the shakedown period. The Respondents shall operate the Reconfigured TOU in a manner that the hourly rolling averages for CO are not exceeded. The rolling averages shall be calculated in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 63.1209(a)(6) and 63.1209(b)(5).

10. During the shakedown period, the Respondents shall monitor and operate an automatic hazardous waste feed cutoff (AWFCO) at the Reconfigured TDU in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 63.1206(c)(ii) and (iv) that immediately and automatically cuts off the hazardous waste feed when any component of the AWFCO system fails, or when one or more of the operating parameter limits set forth in Appendix 1, Table B that are designated as AWFCO parameters are not met. The Respondents shall also comply with the investigation, recordkeeping, testing, and reporting requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 63.1206(c)(3) (v), (vi) and (vii).

11. The Respondents shall conduct a test measuring the concentration of CO in the exhaust gases from the TOU. This test shall include three one-hour runs during which the TDU is operated on oil-bearing hazardous waste. The emissions from the TOU stack shall be monitored for carbon monoxide and oxygen using EPA Method 10. The emissions shall be

demonstrated to be less than 100 ppmV CO corrected to 7% O<sub>2</sub> in each run. The test frequency shall be once during each six-month period, January 1 – June 30 and July 1 - December 31, said time period to commence after conducting the CDT and continuing until the TCEQ issues a RCRA Subpart X permit for the Reconfigured TDU. Within forty-five (45) days after conducting the test, the Respondents shall submit a test report to EPA summarizing the test results. The time periods for conducting the test may be changed to once during each twelve (12) month calendar period, January 1 - December 31, if the Respondents submit to EPA, with a copy to TCEQ, a detailed feed stream analysis plan that characterizes the waste received by the facility, and EPA approves the plan. The detailed feedstream analysis plan shall be prepared in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 264.13 and the EPA Guidance Document “Waste Analysis At Facilities That Generate, Treat, Store, And Dispose of Hazardous Waste”, OSWER 9938.4-03 (April 1994). The Respondents will implement the detailed feedstream analysis plan, as approved or modified by EPA, immediately upon receipt of EPA’s approval.

12. The Respondents shall prepare a report for the time period beginning on the effective date of this CAFO and ending June 30, 2013, and every six (6) months thereafter. The report shall be submitted to EPA, with a copy to TCEQ, within thirty (30) days of the end of the reporting period. The report shall include the following:

a. For each waste stream accepted by the oil reclamation unit, identify the customer, original generator, waste stream description, RCRA waste codes, the SIC or NAICS code of the process generating the waste, a summary of any analyses conducted by the Respondents to verify the waste stream profiles, and the total volume of waste accepted during the reporting period. If requested by EPA, the Respondents shall provide copies of relevant waste approval documents and manifests for the specific waste streams.

b. All time periods in which there were exceedances of the operating parameters and the AWFCO requirements set forth in Appendix 1, Tables A and B, and exceedances of the hourly rolling averages for CO (Paragraph 69.A.9).

c. All exceedances of the Reconfigured TDU Compliance Standards and the AWFCO requirements established in accordance with Paragraph 69.C.9.

d. The initial Report shall include documentation showing that the tune-up and fuel specification analysis required by Paragraphs 69.A.5 and 69.A.6 have been conducted, and provide documentation showing the date of installation and subsequent operation of the AWFCO system required by Paragraphs 69.A.7.

e. Documentation showing the installation of the TOU required by Paragraph 69.A.8, and the additional AWFCO requirements required by Appendix 1, Table B (Paragraph 69.A.10).

The Report may be submitted in an electronic format (i.e., compact disk). The Respondents may claim the report as confidential business information (CBI), in accordance with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 2. However, information that is emissions data or a standard or limitation cannot be claimed as CBI. 40 C.F.R. § 2.301(e). If the Report contains any information that is claimed CBI, the Respondents shall provide a redacted version with all CBI deleted.

## **B. RCRA Permit Modification**

1. Within one year of the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents shall submit to TCEQ, with a copy to EPA, an application for a Class 3 RCRA Permit Modification to permit the Reconfigured TDU as a miscellaneous unit under 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart X in accordance with 30 T.A.C. § 335.152(a)(16) [40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart X], 30 T.A.C. Chapter 305 [40 C.F.R. §§ 270.10 – 270.14, 270.19, 270.23, and 270.30 – 270.33].

2. The permit application shall also include relevant requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subparts I through O and AA through CC, 40 C.F.R. Part 270, and 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart EEE that are appropriate for the operation of the Reconfigured TDU, including an engineering report, waste analysis, monitoring and inspection requirements, and closure requirements set forth in 30 T.A.C. § 335.152(a)(13) [40 C.F.R. §§ 264.341, 264.347, and 264.351].

3. The Respondents shall also request that the issued RCRA permit modification include the following:

- a. The feedstock limitations applicable to the operation of the oil reclamation unit under 40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C) set forth in Paragraph 69.D;
- b. The investigation, recordkeeping, testing, and reporting requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 63.1206(c)(3) (v), (vi) and (vii);
- c. Appropriate recordkeeping and reporting requirements; and
- d. Any applicable risk-based terms and conditions necessary to protect human health and the environment.

4. The failure to timely submit a Class 3 Permit Modification to TCEQ and EPA within the deadline set forth in Paragraph 69.B.1 shall result in the termination of the Respondents' authorization to operate the Reconfigured TDU on that date unless that deadline has been extended pursuant to Section IV.F (Force Majeure).

5. By no later than three and one-half years (42 months) from the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents must complete all permitting requirements and obtain issuance from the TCEQ of a final RCRA Subpart X permit for the TDU as a Subpart X – Miscellaneous Unit in accordance with 30 T.A.C. § 335.152(a)(16) [40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart X], 30 T.A.C. Chapter 305 [40 C.F.R. §§ 270.10 – 270.14, 270.19, 270.23, and 270.30 – 270.33], and which

incorporates the appropriate requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subparts I through O and AA through CC, 40 C.F.R. Part 270, and 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart EEE. In the event that TCEQ does not issue a RCRA Subpart X permit for the Reconfigured TDU as described above by the above deadline, the Respondents' authorization to operate the Reconfigured TDU terminates on that date, unless that deadline has been extended pursuant to Section IV.F (Force Majeure).

### **C. Compliance Demonstration Test**

1. The Respondents shall perform a compliance demonstration test (CDT) in accordance with the approved CDT Plan, which is attached as Appendix C and incorporated by reference into the CAFO. The CDT requires the Respondents to demonstrate compliance with the emissions limits of 40 C.F.R. § 63.1219(b) set forth in Paragraph C.5, the destruction and removal efficiency standard of 40 C.F.R. § 63.1219(c)(1) set forth in Paragraph C.4, and establish limits for the operating parameters set forth in Paragraph 69.C.6 (Appendix 1, Table C).

2. Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents shall submit to EPA for approval, with a copy to TCEQ, a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the CDT. The QAPP shall be prepared in accordance with the EPA Region 6 Guidance "Quick Reference Guide, Test Burn Program Planning for Hazardous Waste Combustion (HWC) Units" dated August 6, 2012. The Respondents shall implement the QAPP as approved or modified by EPA.

3. The Respondents shall implement the CDT in accordance with Appendix 3 within ninety (90) days after reconfiguration of the TDU pursuant to Paragraph 69.A.8 of this CAFO.

4. During the CDT, the Respondents must achieve a destruction and removal efficiency (DRE) of 99.99% for toluene, the designated principle organic hazardous constituent (POHC). The DRE shall be calculated in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 63.1219(c)(1).

5. The emission limits that must be met during the CDT are set forth in 40 C.F.R. § 63.1219(b).

6. The operating parameters limits that will be established during the CDT are set forth in Appendix 1, Table C.

7. The Respondents must not exceed the emission limits set forth in 40 C.F.R. § 63.1219(b), and must achieve a DRE of 99.99% for toluene [as set forth in 40 C.F.R. § 63.1219(c)] for all three runs in order to have a successful CDT. If the Respondents determine, based on the results of analyses of stack samples, that they have exceeded any emission standard or failed to meet the DRE requirement during any of the three runs, they must immediately cease processing hazardous waste in the Reconfigured TDU. The Respondents must make this determination within forty-five (45) days following completion of the CDT. The Respondents may not resume operation of the Reconfigured TDU until the Respondents have submitted and received EPA approval of a revised CDT plan, at which time operations can resume to demonstrate compliance with the emission limits and DRE requirements during all of the three runs.

8. All analyses required by the CDT plan shall be performed by a NELAC accredited laboratory or by a laboratory pre-approved by TCEQ.

9. Within ninety (90) days from completion of the CDT, the Respondents shall submit a CDT Report to EPA and TCEQ prepared in accordance with requirements in the CDT Plan, documenting compliance with the DRE standard and emission limits set forth in Paragraphs 69.C.4 and 69.C.5, and identifying operating parameter limits and AWFCO settings for the parameters set forth in Appendix 1, Table C. The DRE standard, emission limits, operating parameter limits, and the AWFCO settings shall also be set forth in a separate Appendix entitled

“Reconfigured TDU Compliance Standards”. All data collected during the CDT (including, but not limited to, field logs, chain-of-custody documentation, monitoring data, sampling and analytical results, and any other data or calculations supporting the emissions calculations or operating parameter limits) must be submitted to EPA and TCEQ as part of the CDT Report. However, information in the CDT Report that is emissions data or a standard or limitation cannot be claimed as CBI. 40 C.F.R. § 2.301(e). If the Report contains any information that is claimed CBI, the Respondents shall provide a redacted version with all CBI deleted.

10. As of the date of the submission of the CDT Report, the Respondent shall comply with all operating requirements set forth in the “Reconfigured TDU Compliance Standards”, unless otherwise notified by EPA.

11. EPA will review the CDT Report. EPA will make a finding concerning compliance with the emissions standards, DRE requirements, and other requirements of the CDT. If EPA determines that the Respondents have met all the requirements, it shall issue a Finding of Compliance to the Respondents. If EPA determines that the Respondents did not meet all of the requirements, it shall issue a Finding of Non-Compliance. Subject to Paragraph 69.C.7 of this CAFO, the issuance of a Finding of Non-Compliance by EPA shall result in the termination of the Respondents’ authorization to operate the Reconfigured TDU on that date.

12. The failure to timely submit a CDT Report to EPA and TCEQ within ninety (90) days from completion of the CDT shall result in the termination of the Respondents’ authorization to operate the Reconfigured TDU on that date, unless that deadline has been extended pursuant to Section IV.F (Force Majeure).



**D. Compliance with 40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C)**

1. Unless the TDU and the tanks identified in Paragraph 20 are authorized by the RCRA Permit Modification required by Section III.B of this CAFO (or any subsequent permit amendment) to receive wastes that do not meet the requirements set forth in 40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C), feedstock for the oil reclamation unit shall consist only of non-hazardous waste, and oil-bearing hazardous waste from petroleum refining, production, and transportation practices. Oil-bearing hazardous waste from petroleum refining, production, or transportation practices includes the following listed hazardous waste from specific Petroleum Refining Sources (K049, K050, K051, K052, K169, and K170). Also acceptable is oil-bearing hazardous waste from processes which meet the definition of the following Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes and corresponding North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes (i.e., petroleum refining, production, and transportation practices) as follows:

SIC Code	SIC Description	NAICS Code	NAICS Title
1311	Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas	211111	Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Extraction
1321	Natural Gas Liquids	211112	Natural Gas Liquid Extraction
1381	Drilling Oil & Gas Wells	213111	Drilling Oil and Gas Wells
1382	Oil & Gas Field Exploration Services (except geophysical mapping & surveying)	213112	Support Activities for Oil & Gas Operations
1389	Oil and Gas Field Services, NEC (except construction of field gathering lines, site preparation and related construction activities performed on a contract or fee basis)	213112	Support Activities for Oil and Gas Operations
2911	Petroleum Refining	324110	Petroleum Refineries
4612	Crude Petroleum Pipelines	486110	Pipeline Transportation of Crude Oil
4613	Refined Petroleum Pipelines	486910	Pipeline Transportation of Refined Petroleum Products

4789	Transportation Services, NEC (pipeline terminals and stockyards for transportation)	488999	All Other Support Activities for Transportation
4922	Natural Gas Transmission	486210	Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas
4923	Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution (distribution)	221210	Natural Gas Distribution
4923	Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution (transmission)	486210	Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas
5171	Petroleum Bulk Stations and Terminals (except petroleum sold via retail method)	488999	All Other Support Activities for Transportation
5172	Petroleum and Petroleum Products Wholesalers, Except Bulk Stations and Terminals (merchant wholesalers)	424720	Petroleum and Petroleum Products Merchant Wholesalers (except Bulk Stations and Terminals)

Nothing in this Section III.D shall be construed to preclude Respondents from seeking authorization from the TCEQ to process oil-bearing materials outside the scope of 40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C). However, the definition of oil-bearing hazardous waste from petroleum refining, production, or transportation practices set forth in this Paragraph shall remain the same.

2. Using feedstock from processes meeting the definition of the aforementioned SIC/NAICS Codes does not constitute compliance with 40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C) or this CAFO. The Respondents are required to make a separate determination whether the hazardous waste in question is “oil-bearing,” and that the hazardous waste was originally generated from petroleum refining, production, or transportation practices. The Respondents shall request that this provision be placed in the issued RCRA permit as applicable to the oil reclamation unit operation under 40 C.F.R. § 261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C).

#### **E. TCEQ Submission, Revision, and Approval Process**

1. For the Class 3 RCRA Permit Modification required be submitted to TCEQ for approval under this CAFO, TCEQ will review the application in accordance with 30 T.A.C.

§§ 281.3(c), 281.18 and 281.19(a) and (b). The Respondents must respond to any Notice of Deficiency (NOD), with a copy to EPA, within the time period specified by the TCEQ. In the event that the Respondents fail to submit a timely and complete NOD response, the Respondents' authorization to operate the TDU shall terminate on the NOD response deadline unless that deadline has been extended pursuant to Section IV.F (Force Majeure).

#### **F. Additional Conditions**

1. To comply with this CAFO, the Respondents must obtain a RCRA permit for the TDU as a Subpart X – Miscellaneous Unit in accordance with 30 T.A.C. § 335.152(a)(16) [40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart X], 30 T.A.C. Chapter 305 [40 C.F.R. §§ 270.10 – 270.14, 270.19, 270.23, and 270.30 – 270.33], and which incorporates the appropriate requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subparts I through O and AA through CC, and 40 C.F.R. Part 270, and 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart EEE.

2. The Respondents may seek relief under the provisions of Section IV.F of this CAFO (Force Majeure) for any delay in the performance of any such obligations resulting from a failure to obtain, or a delay in obtaining, any permit or approval required to fulfill such obligation, if the Respondent has submitted a timely and complete application and has taken all other actions necessary to obtain such permit or approval.

#### **G. EPA Review and Comment on RCRA Permit**

1. Nothing in this CAFO shall limit EPA's rights under applicable environmental laws or regulations, including, but not limited to, Section 3005(c)(3) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6925(c)(3), 40 C.F.R. § 270.32 and 40 C.F.R. § 271.19, to review, comment, and incorporate appropriate requirements of 40 C.F.R. Parts 264, Subparts I through O and Subparts AA through CC, and

40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart EEE directly into the permit or establish other permit conditions that are based on those parts; or take action under Section 3008(a)(3) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C.

§ 6928(a)(3), against the Respondents on the ground that the RCRA permit for the Reconfigured TDU does not comply with a condition that the EPA Region 6 Regional Administrator in commenting on the permit application or draft permit stated was necessary to implement approved State program requirements, whether or not that condition was included in the issued permit. If the Respondent disputes an action taken by EPA pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 270.32 or 40 C.F.R. § 271.19, the Defendant may invoke Dispute Resolution in accordance with Section IV.E of this CAFO.

#### **H. Submissions**

In all instances in which this Compliance Order requires written submissions to EPA and TCEQ, each submission must be accompanied by the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the information contained in or accompanying this submission is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.”

All submissions must be certified on behalf of the Respondent(s) by the signature of a person authorized to sign a permit application or a report under 40 C.F.R. § 270.11.

#### **I. Monitoring, Recordkeeping, and Record Retention Requirements**

1. Upon the effective date of this CAFO, all interim operating parameters (Appendix 1, Table A), shakedown operating parameters (Appendix 1, Table B), and final operating parameters limits (Appendix 1, Table C and Paragraph 69.C.6) subject to AWFCO limits shall be monitored by the facility's Continuous Process Monitoring System (CPMS), which records data once per minute in an electronic data log (DLG). In addition, the Respondents shall keep copies

of all documents relating to compliance with the operating parameters limits not monitored by the CPMS, and all other documents relating to compliance with Section III of this CAFO. All records, including electronic records, shall be kept for a period of one year after termination of the CAFO. These monitoring and recordkeeping requirements are in addition to any other monitoring and/or recordkeeping requirements required by federal, state, or local laws, regulations, or permits. This information shall be made available to EPA and TCEQ upon request.

2. In addition, the Respondents shall preserve, for a period of one year after termination of the CAFO, all records and documents in its possession or in the possession of its divisions, employees, agents, contractors, or successors which in any way relate to this CAFO regardless of any document retention policy to the contrary. This information shall be made available to EPA and TCEQ upon request.

#### **J. EPA Approval of Submissions**

EPA will review the plans set forth in Paragraphs 69.A.11 (if applicable) and 69.C.2, and notify the Respondents in writing of EPA's approval or disapproval of the plan or any part thereof. Within the time specified, the Respondents shall address the deficiencies and submit a revised plan. EPA will approve, disapprove, or modify the revised submittal. EPA approved plans shall be incorporated by reference into this CAFO.

### **IV. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT**

#### **A. CIVIL PENALTY**

70. Pursuant to the authority granted in Section 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928, and upon consideration of the entire record herein, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, which are hereby adopted and made a part hereof, and upon consideration of the

seriousness of the alleged violations, the Respondents' good faith efforts to comply with the applicable regulations, and the June 2003 RCRA Civil Penalty Policy, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Respondent U.S. Ecology Texas, Inc. be assessed a civil penalty of **ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$165,657)**, and the Respondent TD\*X Associates L.P. be assessed a civil penalty of **SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-THREE DOLLARS (\$622,463)**. The Respondent USET shall pay the assessed civil penalty within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO. The Respondent TD\*X Associates L.P. shall pay the assessed civil penalty in four (4) payments as follows:

Payment No. 1: \$157,978.35 within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

Payment No. 2: \$157,978.35 (\$153,268.99 civil penalty plus interest of \$4,709.36) within one year of the effective date of this CAFO.

Payment No. 3: \$157,978.35 (\$154,822.97 civil penalty plus interest of \$3,155.38) within two years of the effective date of this CAFO.

Payment No. 4: \$157,978.34 (\$156,392.69 civil penalty plus interest of \$1,585.65) within three years of the effective date of this CAFO.

71. The Respondents shall pay the assessed civil penalty by certified check, cashier's check, or wire transfer, made payable to "Treasurer, United States of America, EPA - Region 6". Payment shall be remitted in one of three (3) ways: regular U.S. Postal mail (including certified mail), overnight mail, or wire transfer. For regular U.S. Postal mail, U.S. Postal Service certified mail, or U.S. Postal Service express mail, the check(s) should be remitted to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Fines and Penalties  
Cincinnati Finance Center  
P.O. Box 979077  
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

For overnight mail (non-U.S. Postal Service, e.g. Fed Ex), the check(s) should be  
remitted to:

U.S. Bank  
Government Lockbox 979077  
US EPA Fines & Penalties  
1005 Convention Plaza  
SL-MO-C2-GL  
St. Louis, MO 63101  
Phone No. (314) 418-1028

For wire transfer, the payment should be remitted to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
ABA: 021030004  
Account No. 68010727  
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33  
33 Liberty Street  
New York, NY 10045  
Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read  
"D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency"

**PLEASE NOTE: Docket numbers RCRA-06-2012-0936 (Respondent USET) and RCRA-06-2012-0937 (Respondent TD\*X) shall be clearly typed on the respective checks to ensure proper credit.** If payment is made by check, the check shall also be accompanied by a transmittal letter and shall reference the Respondent's name and address, the case name, and docket number of the CAFO. If payment is made by wire transfer, the wire transfer instructions shall reference the Respondent's name and address, the case name, and docket number of the CAFO. The Respondents shall also send a simultaneous notice of such payment, including a copy of the check and transmittal letter, or wire transfer instructions to the following:

Chief, Compliance Enforcement Section (6EN-HE)  
Hazardous Waste Enforcement Branch  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Lorena Vaughn  
Regional Hearing Clerk (6RC-D)  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

The Respondents' adherence to this request will ensure proper credit is given when penalties are received in the Region.

72. The Respondents agree not to claim or attempt to claim a federal income tax deduction or credit covering all or any part of the civil penalty paid to the United States Treasurer.

73. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, unless otherwise prohibited by law, EPA will assess interest and late payment penalties on outstanding debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the costs of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest on the civil penalty assessed in this CAFO will begin to accrue thirty (30) days after the effective date of the CAFO and will be recovered by EPA on any amount of the civil penalty that is not paid by the respective due date. Interest will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan rate in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a). Moreover, the costs of the Agency's administrative handling of overdue debts will be charged and assessed monthly throughout the period the debt is overdue. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b).

74. EPA will also assess a \$15.00 administrative handling charge for administrative costs on unpaid penalties for the first thirty (30) day period after the payment is due and an additional \$15.00 for each subsequent thirty (30) day period that the penalty remains unpaid. In addition, a



penalty charge of up to six percent per year will be assessed monthly on any portion of the debt which remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(c). Should a penalty charge on the debt be required, it shall accrue from the first day payment is delinquent. *See* 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(d). Other penalties for failure to make a payment may also apply.

**B. PARTIES BOUND**

75. The provisions of this CAFO shall apply to and be binding upon the parties to this action, their officers, directors, agents, employees, successors, and assigns. The undersigned representative of each party to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party whom he or she represents to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and to execute and to legally bind that party to it.

**C. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

76. The Respondents shall undertake the following additional requirements:

A. The Respondents agree that the oil reclamation unit and the TDU are subject to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart FF.

B. Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the CAFO, the Respondents shall submit to EPA a certification that the following equipment in the oil reclamation unit and the TDU is not in “volatile hazardous air pollutant” (VHAP) service, as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 61.241:

1. pumps;
2. compressors;
3. pressure relief devices;
4. sampling connection systems;
5. open-ended valves or lines;

6. valves;
7. connectors;
8. surge control vessels;
9. bottoms receivers; and
10. control devices and systems.

This certification shall be submitted in accordance with Paragraphs 76.H and 76.I.

C. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.354(c), as of the effective date of this CAFO, the Respondents shall install, calibrate, maintain, and operate according to manufacturer's specifications, devices to continuously monitor the control devices operations required by 40 C.F.R. § 61.349.

D. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.345(a), within 180 days of the effective date of the CAFO, the Respondents shall install, operate, and maintain covers on Bins 1, 2, 3, 4, and the Centrifuge solid bins that meet the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 61.345(a)(1). The cover and openings shall be in a closed, sealed position at all times that waste is in the container except when it is necessary to use the opening for waste loading, removal, inspection or sampling, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 61.345(a)(1)(ii). The Respondents shall monitor the cover and all openings for no detectable emissions initially and thereafter at least once per year by the methods specified in 40 C.F.R. § 61.355(h).

E. The Respondents shall use a submerged fill pipe when transferring waste into the containers by pumping, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 61.345(a)(2).

F. Within ninety (90) days after the reconfiguration of the TDU pursuant to Paragraph 69.A.8 of this CAFO, the Respondents shall conduct performance tests for the TOU and the carbon adsorption system to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of 40 C.F.R.

§ 61.349. The performance tests shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 61.355. A copy of the performance test results shall be submitted to EPA within ninety (90) days of completion of the performance tests. The performance tests results shall be submitted in accordance with Paragraphs 76.H and 76.I.

G. Within 210 days of the effective date of the CAFO, the Respondents shall submit a written report to EPA showing compliance with Paragraphs 76.C, 76.D, and 76.E.

H. The certification and report identified in this Section must be accompanied by the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the information contained in or accompanying this submission is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.”

All submissions must be certified on behalf of the Respondent(s) by the signature of a person authorized to sign a permit application or a report under 40 C.F.R. § 270.11.

I. The certification and report required under this Section shall be sent to the following:

Craig Lutz  
Toxics Enforcement Section (6EN-AT)  
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

#### **D. STIPULATED PENALTIES**

77. In addition to any other remedies or sanctions available to EPA, the Respondent(s) shall pay stipulated penalties in the following amounts for each day during which each failure or refusal to comply continues:

## a. Failure to Timely Submit Reports or Plans - Paragraphs 69.A.11, 69.A.12, and 69.C.2

<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>	<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>
1st through 15th day	\$ 1,000
16th through 30th day	\$ 1,500
31st day and beyond	\$ 2,500

## b. Failure to Comply with Certain Interim Operating Requirements – Paragraphs 69.A.5, 69.A.6, 69.A.7 (installation of AWFCO only), 69A.8, and 69.A.11

<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>	<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>
1st through 15th day	\$ 1,500
16th through 30th day	\$ 2,500
31st day and beyond	\$ 5,000

## c. Failure to Comply with any Other Provision of Section III of this CAFO

<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>	<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>
1st through 15th day	\$ 500
16th through 30th day	\$ 1,000
31st day and beyond	\$ 1,500

## d. Failure to Comply with Additional Requirements – Section IV.C

<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>	<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>
1st through 15th day	\$ 1,500
16th through 30th day	\$ 2,500
31st day and beyond	\$ 5,000

Penalties shall accrue from the date of the noncompliance until the date the violation is corrected, as determined by EPA.

78. The Respondent(s) shall pay stipulated penalties not more than fifteen (15) days after receipt of written demand by EPA for such penalties. Method of payment shall be in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 71 herein. Interest and late charges shall be paid as stated in Paragraphs 73 - 74 herein.

79. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as prohibiting, altering, or in any way limiting the ability of EPA to seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of the Respondent(s) violation of this CAFO or of the statutes and regulations upon which this agreement is based, or for the Respondent's violation of any applicable provision of law.

**E. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

80. If the Respondents object to any decision or directive of EPA in regard to Section III or IV.C, the Respondents shall notify each other and the following persons in writing of its objections, and the basis for those objections, within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of EPA's decision or directive:

Associate Director  
Hazardous Waste Enforcement Branch (6EN-H)  
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
U.S. EPA - Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Chief, RCRA Enforcement Branch (6RC-ER)  
Office of Regional Counsel  
U.S. EPA - Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

81. The Associate Director of the Hazardous Waste Enforcement Branch or his/her designee (Associate Director), and the Respondents shall then have an additional thirty (30) calendar days from EPA's receipt of the Respondents' written objections to attempt to resolve the dispute. If an agreement is reached between the Associate Director and the Respondents, the agreement shall be reduced to writing and signed by the Associate Director and the Respondents and incorporated by reference into this CAFO.

82. If no agreement is reached between the Associate Director and the Respondents within that time period, the dispute shall be submitted to the Director of the Compliance

Assurance and Enforcement Division or his/her designee (Division Director). The Division Director and the Respondents shall then have a second 30-day period to resolve the dispute. If an agreement is reached between the Division Director and the Respondents, the resolution shall be reduced to writing and signed by the Division Director and the Respondents and incorporated by reference into this CAFO. If the Division Director and the Respondents are unable to reach agreement within this second 30-day period, the Division Director shall provide a written statement of EPA's decision to the Respondents, which shall be binding upon the Respondents and incorporated by reference into the CAFO.

83. If the Dispute Resolution process results in a modification of this CAFO, the modified CAFO must be approved by the Regional Judicial Officer and filed pursuant to Section IV.H (Modifications).

84. The invocation of dispute resolution procedures under this Section shall not extend, postpone, or affect in any way, any obligations of the Respondents under this CAFO, unless and until final resolution of the dispute so provides. Stipulated penalties with respect to the disputed matter shall continue to accrue from the first day of noncompliance, but payment shall be stayed pending resolution of the dispute. If the Respondents do not prevail on the disputed issue, stipulated penalties shall be assessed and paid as provided in Section IV.D.

#### **F. FORCE MAJEURE**

85. A "force majeure event" is any event beyond the control of the Respondents, their contractors, or any entity controlled by the Respondents that delays the performance of any obligation under this CAFO despite the Respondents' best efforts to fulfill the obligation. "Best efforts" includes anticipating any potential force majeure event and addressing the effects of any such event (a) as it is occurring and (b) after it has occurred, to prevent or minimize any resulting

delay to the greatest extent possible. "Force Majeure" does not include the Respondents' financial inability to perform any obligation under this CAFO, but does include any delays attributable to the TCEQ's permitting process and the conduct of the contested case hearing.

86. The Respondents shall provide notice orally or by electronic or facsimile transmission as soon as possible, but not later than 72 hours after the time the Respondents first knew of, or by the exercise of due diligence, reasonably should have known of, a claimed force majeure event. The Respondents shall also provide written notice, as provided in Section IV.G of this CAFO, within seven days of the time the Respondents first knew of, or by the exercise of due diligence, reasonably should have known of, the event. The notice shall state the anticipated duration of any delay; its cause(s); the Respondents' past and proposed actions to prevent or minimize any delay; a schedule for carrying out those actions; and the Respondents' rationale for attributing any delay to a force majeure event. Failure to give such notice shall preclude the Respondents from asserting any claim of force majeure.

87. The Respondent also shall provide notice orally or by electronic or facsimile transmission to the other Respondent not later than 24 hours after the time Respondent first knew of, or by the exercise of due diligence, reasonably should have known of, a claimed force majeure event, provided that the failure to give such notice shall not limit either Respondent's responsibilities under this CAFO.

88. If the Complainant agrees that a force majeure event has occurred, the Complainant may agree to extend the time for the Respondents to perform the affected requirements for the time necessary to complete those obligations. An extension of time to perform the obligations affected by a force majeure event shall not, by itself, extend the time to perform any other

obligation. Where the Complainant agrees to an extension of time, the appropriate modification shall be made pursuant to Section IV.H of this CAFO.

89. If the Complainant does not agree that a force majeure event has occurred, or does not agree to the extension of time sought by the Respondents, the Complainant's position shall be binding, unless the Respondents invokes Dispute Resolution under Section IV.D of this CAFO. In any such dispute, the Respondents bear the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that each claimed force majeure event is a force majeure event; that the Respondents gave the notice required by the paragraph above, that the force majeure event caused any delay the Respondents' claimed was attributable to that event; and that the Respondents exercised their reasonable best efforts to prevent or minimize any delay caused by the event. If the Respondents carry this burden, the delay at issue shall be deemed not to be a violation of the affected obligation of this CAFO.

#### **G. NOTIFICATION**

90. Unless otherwise specified elsewhere in this CAFO, whenever notice is required to be given, whenever a report or other document is required to be forwarded by one party to another, or whenever a submission or demonstration is required to be made, it shall be directed to the individuals specified below at the addresses given (in addition to any action specified by law or regulation), unless these individuals or their successors give notice in writing to the other parties that another individual has been designated to receive the communication:

Complainant:

Chief, Compliance Enforcement Section (6EN-HE)  
Hazardous Waste Enforcement Branch  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733



Respondent U.S. Ecology Texas, Inc.:

Mary Reagan  
McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P.  
600 Congress Avenue  
Suite 2100  
Austin, Texas 78701

Respondent TD\*X Associates, L.P.:

J.D. Head  
Fritz, Bryne, Head & Harrison, PLLC  
98 San Jacinto Boulevard  
Suite 2000  
Austin, TX 78701

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Section Manager  
Industrial and Hazardous Permits Section  
Waste Permits Division  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13087 MC 130  
Austin, TX 78711

## **H. MODIFICATION**

91. The terms, conditions, and compliance requirements of this CAFO may not be modified or amended except as otherwise specified in this CAFO, or upon the written agreement of the Complainant and Respondent(s), and approved by the Regional Judicial Officer, and such modification or amendment being filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

## **I. RETENTION OF ENFORCEMENT RIGHTS**

92. EPA does not waive any rights or remedies available to EPA for any other violations by the Respondents of Federal or State laws, regulations, or permitting conditions.

93. Except as herein provided, nothing in this CAFO shall limit the power and authority of EPA or the United States to take, direct, or order all actions to protect public health, welfare, or the environment, or prevent, abate or minimize an actual or threatened release of hazardous

substances, pollutants, contaminants, hazardous substances on, at or from the Respondent USET's facility or Respondent TD\*X's oil reclamation unit and related equipment.

Furthermore, nothing in this CAFO shall be construed or to prevent or limit EPA's civil and criminal authorities, or that of other Federal, State, or local agencies or departments to obtain penalties or injunctive relief under other Federal, State, or local laws or regulations.

94. The Complainant reserves all legal and equitable remedies available to enforce the provisions of this CAFO. This CAFO shall not be construed to limit the rights of the EPA or United States to obtain penalties or injunctive relief under RCRA or under other federal or state laws, regulations, or permit conditions.

95. In any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding initiated by the Complainant or the United States for injunctive relief, civil penalties, or other appropriate relief relating to this Facility or the oil reclamation unit, the Respondents shall not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claim based upon the principles of waiver, res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, claim-splitting, or other defenses based upon any contention that the claims raised by the Complainant or the United States in the subsequent proceeding were or should have been brought in the instant case, except with respect to claims that have been specifically resolved pursuant to this CAFO.

96. This CAFO is not a permit, or a modification of any permit, under any federal, State, or local laws or regulations. The Respondents are responsible for achieving and maintaining complete compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and permits. The Respondents' compliance with this CAFO shall be no defense to any action commenced pursuant to any such laws, regulations, or permits, except as set forth herein. The Complainant does not warrant or aver in any manner that the Respondents' compliance with any aspect of this

CAFO will result in compliance with provisions of the RCRA or with any other provisions of federal, State, or local laws, regulations, or permits.

**J. INDEMNIFICATION OF EPA**

97. Neither EPA nor the United States Government shall be liable for any injuries or damages to person or property resulting from the acts or omissions of the Respondents, their officers, directors, employees, agents, receivers, trustees, successors, assigns, or contractors in carrying out the activities required by this CAFO, nor shall EPA or the United States Government be held out as a party to any contract entered into by the Respondents in carrying out the activities required by this CAFO.

**K. COSTS**

98. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees. Furthermore, each Respondent specifically waives its right to seek reimbursement of its costs and attorney's fees under 5 U.S.C. § 504 and 40 C.F.R. Part 17.

**L. TERMINATION**

99. At such time as the Respondents believe they have completed all of the requirements of this CAFO, they may request that EPA concur whether all of the requirements of this CAFO have been satisfied. Such request shall be in writing and shall provide the necessary documentation to establish whether there has been full compliance with the terms and conditions of this CAFO. EPA will respond to said request in writing within ninety (90) days of receipt of the request. This CAFO shall terminate when all actions required to be taken by this CAFO have been completed, and the Respondents have been notified by the EPA in writing that this CAFO has been satisfied and terminated.

**M. EFFECTIVE DATE**


100. This CAFO, and any subsequent modifications, become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

**THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES CONSENT TO THE ENTRY OF THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER:**

**FOR THE RESPONDENT:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9/27/12

  
US Ecology Texas, Inc.

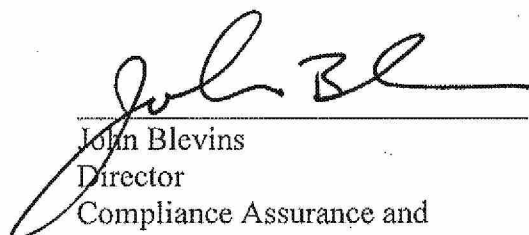
**FOR THE RESPONDENT:**

Date: September 26, 2012

Carl R. Palmer  
TD\*X Associates L.P.

**FOR THE COMPLAINANT:**

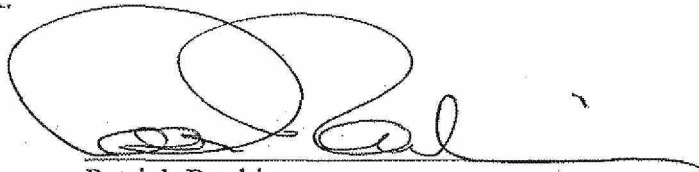
Date: 10.03.12

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Blevins  
Director  
Compliance Assurance and  
Enforcement Division

**FINAL ORDER**

Pursuant to the Section 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928, and the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, 40 C.F.R. Part 22, the foregoing Consent Agreement is hereby ratified. This Final Order shall not in any case affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive relief or other equitable relief for criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This Final Order shall resolve only those causes of action alleged herein. Nothing in this Final Order shall be construed to waive, extinguish or otherwise affect the Respondents' (or their officers, agents, servants, employees, successors, or assigns) obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, including the regulations that were the subject of this action. The Respondents are ordered to comply with the Compliance Order and terms of settlement as set forth in the Consent Agreement. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b), this Final Order shall become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

Date: 10/4/12

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Rankin', is written over a horizontal line.

Patrick Rankin  
Regional Judicial Officer



## **APPENDIX 1 – OPERATING PARAMETERS**

TABLE A

## TDU OIL RECLAMATION SYSTEM INTERIM REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO TDU INSTALLATION

Tag No.	Equipment Operating Parameter	Operating Parameter Limit	Compliance Basis
TT-18/19	TDU Dryer, Minimum Combustion Chamber Temperature	Maintain Temperature > 1,400°F	AWFCO: CPMS <sup>1</sup> , 60-sec time delay
PT-1	TDU Dryer, Maximum Internal Pressure	Maintain Pressure < 0.00" W.C.	AWFCO: CPMS, 6-min Rolling Average (RA) <sup>2</sup>
OE-1	Purge Vent Gas Stream Maximum O <sub>2</sub> Concentration	O <sub>2</sub> < 7%	AWFCO: CPMS, 60-sec time delay
FE-101	Maximum Purge Vent Rate	Purge Vent Rate < 180 scfm	AWFCO: CPMS, Hourly Rolling Average (HRA) <sup>3</sup>
M-100	Minimum Percent Excess Air, Operation of Purge Vent Injector Air Supply	Purge Vent Air Supply > 20% Excess Air	AWFCO: CPMS, Tuning of Combustion Airflow
TE-28	Maximum Condenser System Exhaust Temperature	Temperature < 120°F	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA
	HEPA Filter Installed and Pressure Change Monitored to Ensure Integrity of Filter	Installed and $\Delta$ Pressure Monitoring	Installation Check; $\Delta$ Pressure Monitored Once Per Shift
	Maximum TDU Feed Mercury Concentration	[Hg] < 50 ppm/Bin	Blending Protocols & Documentation <sup>4</sup>
	Maximum TDU Feed Organic Halide Concentration	[Total Organic Halides] < 1,500 ppm/Bin	Blending Protocols & Documentation

<sup>1</sup> Continuous Process Monitoring System – See Paragraph 69.I of CAFO.

<sup>2</sup> Previous six 1-minute readings are summed and divided by six.

<sup>3</sup> 40 C.F.R. §§ 63.1209(b)(5).

<sup>4</sup> See Paragraph 69.A.3 of the CAFO.

TABLE B

**TDU OIL RECLAMATION SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS AFTER TOU INSTALLATION  
PRE-COMPLIANCE DEMONSTRATION TEST OPERATIONS**

Tag No.	Equipment Operating Parameter	Shakedown (Pre-Test) OPL	Compliance Basis
PT-1	TDU Dryer, Maximum Internal Pressure	Maintain Pressure < 0.00" W.C.	AWFCO: CPMS <sup>5</sup> , 6-min RA <sup>6</sup>
M-05	TDU Dryer, Cylinder Rotation On	Motor Operating	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
M-18	Product Discharge System	Motor Operating	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
M-21	Recirculation Blower Operating	Motor Operating	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
TT-121	TOU, Minimum Combustion Chamber Temperature	Maintain Temperature > 1,400°F	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA <sup>7</sup>
KY-110	TOU, Minimum Residence Time (Calculated from Purge Vent Flow Rate, Exhaust T, and Air Ratio)	Residence Time > 0.5 seconds	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA
AE-5/ OE-5	TOU Exhaust Gas, Maximum CO Concentration	[CO] < 100 ppmV @ 7% O <sub>2</sub>	AWFCO: CEMS for CO, HRA
OE-1	Purge Vent Gas Stream, Maximum O <sub>2</sub> Concentration	[O <sub>2</sub> ] < 7%	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
FE-101	Maximum Purge Vent Rate	Vent Flow < 250 scfm	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA
FCV-102	Valve Position to Ensure Purge Vent is not Directed Away from TOU	Valve Closed	AWFCO: CPMS, 60-sec delay
M-121	Minimum Percent Excess Air, Operation of Purge Vent Injector Air Supply	Purge Vent Air Supply > 20% Excess Air	AWFCO: CPMS, Tuning of Combustion Airflow
TE-28	Maximum Condenser System Exhaust Temperature	Maintain Temperature < 120°F	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA

<sup>5</sup> Continuous Process Monitoring System – See Paragraph 69.I of the CAFO.

<sup>6</sup> Previous six 1-minute readings are summed and divided by six.

<sup>7</sup> 40 C.F.R. §§ 63.1209(a)(6) and 63.1209(b)(5).

	HEPA Filter Installed and Pressure Change Monitored to Ensure Integrity of Filter	Installed and $\Delta$ Pressure Monitoring	Installation Check; $\Delta$ Pressure Monitored Once Per Shift
	Maximum TDU Feed Mercury Concentration	[Hg] < 50 ppm/Bin	Blending Protocols & Documentation <sup>8</sup> , Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable) <sup>9</sup>
	Maximum TDU Feed Organic Halide Concentration	[Total Organic Halides] < 1,500 ppm/Bin	Blending Protocols & Documentation, Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable)
	Maximum TDU Feed Semi-Volatile Metals Concentration <sup>10</sup>	N/A	Blending Protocols & Documentation, Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable)
	Maximum TDU Feed Low-Volatile Metals Concentration <sup>11</sup>	N/A	Blending Protocols & Documentation, Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable)

---

<sup>8</sup> See Paragraph 69.A.3 of the CAFO.

<sup>9</sup> See Paragraph 69.A.11 of the CAFO.

<sup>10</sup> Semi-volatile metals means a combination of cadmium and lead.

<sup>11</sup> Low-volatile metals means a combination of Arsenic, Beryllium, and Chromium.

TABLE C

**TDU OIL RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS AFTER TOU INSTALLATION  
POST-COMPLIANCE DEMONSTRATION TEST OPERATIONS**

Tag No.	Equipment Operating Parameter	Interim/Final (Post-Test) OPL	Compliance Basis
PT-1	TDU Dryer, Maximum Internal Pressure	Maintain Pressure < 0.00" W.C.	AWFCO: CPMS <sup>12</sup> , 6-min RA <sup>13</sup>
M-05	TDU Dryer, Cylinder Rotation On	Motor Operating	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
M-18	Product Discharge System	Motor Operating	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
M-21	Recirculation Blower Operating	Motor Operating	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
TT-121	TOU, Minimum Combustion Chamber Temperature	OPL Established @ > 3-Run Average from CDT	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA <sup>14</sup>
KY-110	TOU, Minimum Residence Time (Calculated from Purge Vent Flow Rate, Exhaust T, and Air Ratio)	Residence Time > 0.5 seconds	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA
AE-5/ OE-5	TOU Exhaust Gas, Maximum CO Concentration	Semi-Annual Testing until Waste Analysis Plan Approved, then Annual Testing	Performance Testing in lieu of CEMS; Waste Analysis Plan based with other OPLs
OE-1	Purge Vent Gas Stream, Maximum O <sub>2</sub> Concentration	[O <sub>2</sub> ] < 7%	AWFCO: CPMS, Instantaneous
FE-101	Maximum Purge Vent Rate	Vent Flow < 250 scfm	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA
FCV-102	Valve Position to Ensure Purge Vent is not Directed Away from TOU	Valve Closed	AWFCO: CPMS, 60-sec time delay
M-121	Minimum Percent Excess Air, Operation of Purge Vent Injector Air Supply	Purge Vent Air Supply > 20% Excess Air	AWFCO: CPMS, Tuning of Combustion Airflow

<sup>12</sup> Continuous Process Monitoring System – See Paragraph 69.I of CAFO.

<sup>13</sup> Previous six 1-minute readings are summed and divided by six.

<sup>14</sup> 40 C.F.R. §§ 63.1209(a)(6) and 63.1209(b)(5).

TE-28	Maximum Condenser System Exhaust Temperature	OPL Established @ < 3-run Average Based on CDT	AWFCO: CPMS, HRA
	HEPA Filter Installed and Pressure Change Monitored to Ensure Integrity of Filter	Installed and $\Delta$ Pressure Monitoring	Installation Check; $\Delta$ Pressure Monitored Once Per Shift
	Maximum TDU Feed Mercury Concentration	[Hg] < 50 ppm/Bin	Blending Protocols & Documentation <sup>15</sup> , Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable) <sup>16</sup>
	Maximum TDU Feed Organic Halide Concentration	OPL Established as Measured Ratio <sup>17</sup>	Blending Protocols & Documentation, Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable)
	Maximum TDU Feed Semi-Volatile Metals Concentration <sup>18</sup>	OPL Established as Measured Ratio <sup>19</sup>	Blending Protocols & Documentation, Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable)
	Maximum TDU Feed Low-Volatile Metals Concentration <sup>20</sup>	OPL Established as Measured Ratio <sup>21</sup>	Blending Protocols & Documentation, Feed Stream Analysis Plan (if applicable)

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<sup>15</sup> See Paragraph 69.A.3 of the CAFO.

<sup>16</sup> See Paragraph 69.A.11 of the CAFO.

<sup>17</sup> Maximum TDU Feed Concentration established as a measured ratio (not to exceed 4000 ppm/bin) from emissions data collected during CDT. See plan example calculations.

<sup>18</sup> Semi-volatile metals means a combination of cadmium and lead.

<sup>19</sup> Maximum TDU Feed Concentration established as measured ration from emissions data collected during CDT. See plan example calculations.

<sup>20</sup> Low-volatile metals means a combination of Arsenic, Beryllium, and Chromium.

<sup>21</sup> Maximum TDU Feed Concentration established as measured ratio from emissions data collected during CDT. See plan example calculations.

**APPENDIX 2 – BLENDING PROTOCOLS**

**CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS  
INFORMATION**

**DOCUMENT STORED IN FILE ROOM**

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **COMPLIANCE DEMONSTRATION TEST PLAN**

**CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS  
INFORMATION**

**DOCUMENT STORED IN FILE ROOM**



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2012, the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) was hand delivered to the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA - Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, and that true and correct copies of the CAFO were sent to the following by the method indicated below:

For US Ecology Texas, Inc.

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested – 7007 0710 0002 1385 1491

Mary Reagan  
McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P.  
600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100  
Austin, Texas 78701

For TD\*X Associates LP

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested – 7007 0710 0002 1385 1507

J.D. Head  
Fritz, Bryne, Head & Harrison, PLLC  
98 San Jacinto Boulevard  
Suite 2000  
Austin, TX 78701

Evan L Pearson

MAIN FILE



17170 PERKINS ROAD  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70810  
PHONE (225) 755-1000  
FAX (225) 751-2010  
WWW.CKd.com

LDEQ RECEIPT

2018 JUN 29 PM 4:08  
BATON, TX  
PHONE (281) 397-9016  
FAX (281) 397-6637

LAKE CHARLES, LA  
PHONE (337) 625-6577  
FAX (337) 625-6580

SHREVEPORT, LA  
PHONE (318) 797-8636  
FAX (318) 798-0476

HAND DELIVERED

June 29, 2018

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of Environmental Services  
Permits Division  
602 North Fifth Street  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

original to JOA  
copy to O&G / Shergala  
PRR

Re: Small Source Permit Modification Application  
Thermaladyne, LLC – Port Allen Facility  
Agency Interest Number 198467 ✓  
Permit Number 3120-00116-00  
CK Project Number 14764

PERM 0180002

Dear Administrator:

On behalf of Thermaladyne, LLC (Thermaladyne), CK Associates is submitting the enclosed Small Source Permit Modification Application. The facility is a minor source of criteria pollutants and of Chapter 51 toxic air pollutants and is currently permitted under Permit No. 3120-00116-00 issued November 16, 2015.

As required by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Thermaladyne is submitting three copies of this permit application. A check in the amount of \$500 (Fee Code 1722) is also included to cover the review fees.

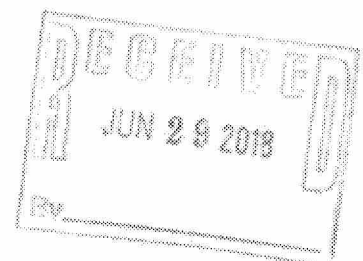
If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Richard Cates of Thermaladyne at (337) 288-4600 or me at (225) 755-1000.

Sincerely,  
CK Associates

Kerry Brouillette  
Air Quality Program Manager

Enclosures: As stated

cc: Richard Cates – Thermaladyne



ED\_002099\_0000083-00001

# RECEIPT OF CHECK

Monday, July 02, 2018

1:00:26 PM

Master AI #: 198467  
Name on Check: CK Associates, LLC  
Master File Name: Thermaladyne LLC - Port Allen Facility  
Check Received Date: 6/29/2018  
Check Date: 6/29/2018  
Check Number: 52566  
Check Amount (\$): \$500.00  
Staff Entry: SUNSHINEM  
Date data entered: 7/2/2018  
Media: AIR  
Reason: Modification

Comments:

# SMALL SOURCE PERMIT MODIFICATION APPLICATION



ThermalDyne, LLC  
Port Allen, Louisiana  
West Baton Rouge Parish  
Agency Interest No. 198467

June 2018

Prepared by:



17170 Perkins Road  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
225-755-1000

CK Project Number: 14764

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1.2	Proposed Modifications.....	6
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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Port Allen Land, LLC (PAL) applied for a small source permit in March of 2015 for a recovery/recycling facility to be located in West Baton Rouge Parish. Consequently, Small Source Permit No. 3120-00115-00 was issued on May 4, 2015. In August of 2015, an application was submitted to modify the permitted location of the facility. Permit No. 3120-00115-00 was terminated and Permit No. 3120-00116-00 was issued, both effective November 16, 2015. On May 3, 2016, Permit No. 3120-00116-00 was transferred from PAL to Thermaladyne, LLC (Thermaladyne) for the Port Allen Facility.

Thermaladyne owns and will operate the Port Allen Facility. The facility reclaims oil from oil-bearing hazardous secondary materials (OBHSM) by utilizing a 3-phase centrifuge process and an indirect thermal desorption (ITD) process. The OBHSM consists of sludges, byproducts, spent or other oil-bearing materials generated at petroleum refineries and related oil and gas operations such as pipeline systems and tank terminals. The oil that is reclaimed is returned to petroleum refineries for reinsertion into the refining process or sold as fuel in the fuel blending market. The permitted site is on approximately 28.2 acres at 2325 North Line Road in Port Allen, Louisiana in West Baton Rouge Parish. A Site Location Map is provided as Figure 1.

This Application for Approval of Emissions of Air Pollutants (AAEAP) from Minor Sources (Section 2.0) is being submitted by Thermaladyne for a modification of the permit to incorporate design changes. The facility meets the definition of small source: a facility that has the potential to emit less than 25 tons per year of any criteria pollutant, less than 10 tons per year of any toxic air pollutant, and is not otherwise considered a major source.

### **1.1 Process Description**

#### **Processing within Material Handling Building**

All OBHSM will be unloaded within the Material Handling Building into either the Liquids Containment Area (Low Solids OBHSM) or within the Solids Containment Area (High Solids OBHSM).

The Liquids Containment Area consists of a concrete lined pit and a dewatering unit (a High Gravity linear shaker). The Liquids Containment Area is located in the northeast corner of the Material Handling Building. The Low Solids OBHSM will be unloaded into the Liquids Containment Area Pit then transferred via submersible pump into the dewatering unit (a High Gravity linear shaker). The liquid stream from the dewatering unit will be transferred via pipe to the Thermal Pad for processing in the centrifuge

system. The solid stream from the dewatering unit will be transferred via front loader to the Solids Containment Area.

The Solids Containment Area consists of that portion of the Material Handling Building not occupied by the Liquids Containment Area or other structures. The High Solids OBHSM will be unloaded within the Solids Containment Area and transferred via an auger conveyor to the Thermal Desorption Unit (TDU) for processing.

Air inside the Material Handling Building will be controlled by carbon canisters using induced draft. The control system is designed to operate with better than 75% capture and 99% control efficiency.

OBHSM will be stored within suitable physical enclosures provided with appropriate dust/vapor control measures to prevent and minimize potential fugitive emissions. Dust curtains will be used to contain potential fugitive releases, preventing release of particulate matter outside of the product receiving building. When totally enclosed, the building will operate under negative pressure.

#### **Processing on Thermal Pad**

OBHSM will be processed on the Thermal Pad in the centrifuge system and the TDU. The centrifuge system will separate the Low Solids OBHSM into individual streams: water, oil, and solids. The water will be processed through the wastewater treatment plant (also located on the Thermal Pad). The oil will be collected in tanks or containers. The solids will be conveyed to the Solids Containment Area (located in the Material Handling Building) prior to conveyance into the TDU for further reclamation.

#### **Low Solids OBHSM**

Low Solids OBHSM consists of mostly water (i.e., 70 – 90%) with the remaining mixture consisting of various oil and solids. Low Solids OBHSM is typically received in vacuum trucks or vacuum containers and pumped into the Liquids Containment Area.

The Liquids Containment Area will include a concrete lined pit with a capacity of approximately 28,726 gallons. The Liquid Containment Area, including the pit, will be located within the Material Handling Building to prevent rainwater from coming into contact with the material.

The OBHSM will be transferred from the pit to the dewatering system via a submersible slurry pump for screening through a High Gravity linear shaker. The liquid stream from the dewatering unit will be transferred via pipe to the Thermal Pad for processing in the centrifuge system. The solid stream from the dewatering unit will be transferred via front loader to the Solids Containment Area.

### High Solids OBHSM

High Solids OBHSM consists of mostly solids (i.e., 40 – 70%), with the remaining volume consisting of oil and water. High Solids OBHSM are typically received in roll-off boxes or other containers. High Solids OBHSM will be offloaded into the Solids Containment Area and transferred via an auger conveyor to the TDU for processing.

### Centrifuge Process

All Low Solids OBHSM will be screened over a High Gravity linear shaker and then fed to one of three 3-phase tricanting centrifuges. Water, oil, and solids will be separated into individual streams. The water will be processed through the wastewater treatment plant and then discharged or disposed. The solids will be conveyed to the TDU for further processing and recovery.

### Thermal Desorption Process

Thermaldyne will use an indirect TDU to reclaim the OBHSM. Indirect thermal desorption is a non-incineration technology designed to separate hydrocarbons from various matrices including oilfield waste, soil, sludge, sand, filter cake, tank and tanker bottoms, and contaminated soil. Thermaldyne will limit OBHSM that it receives to that generated at petroleum refineries and related oil and gas operations such as pipeline systems and tank terminals. This proven thermal desorption technology is currently used to reclaim oil from oil-containing materials within petroleum refineries and at numerous commercial facilities.

In the indirect heating process, heat is applied to the exterior of the heating chamber and is transferred through the wall of the chamber to the OBHSM. Neither the burner flame nor the combustion gases come in contact with the OBHSM or the off-gases. This type of TDU is designed to maximize the recovery of the volatilized contaminants from the off-gases.

### Feed System

The main components of the feed system will include single or dual-feed hoppers for material storage. The hoppers are furnished with variable speed screw auger systems in the bottom for discharge of difficult to convey material. Feed hoppers will be loaded using a front-end loader or crane operated clam-shell type bucket.

After material is discharged from a hopper, it travels via single or dual enclosed conveyors to the inlet of the TDU. The TDU feed rate is controlled by adjusting the speed of the rotation of the screw-auger system in the feed hopper bottom while all other conveying components operate at constant speed. Material preparation and pre-



treatment might be necessary during certain projects to assure good material conveying and oil reclamation.

#### Indirectly Heated Rotary Drum

The primary function of the indirectly heated rotary drum is to vaporize the hydrocarbons and the moisture from the incoming material. The indirectly heated drum is designed to operate at temperatures ranging from 1,200°F –1,600°F. The rotary drum is heated from outside where several burners provide the necessary process heat. The natural gas-fired unit will operate at up to 18 MMBTU per hour. The rotary drum shell material and the furnace burner capacity are designed to elevate the OBHSM temperature up to 900°F, although these higher operating temperature ranges are rarely necessary for material processing under normal conditions. The drum's material inlet and discharge are controlled via two airlocks designed to minimize air (oxygen) leakage into the drum. The inlet and discharge end of the rotary drum are equipped with custom designed seals to prevent air leakage.

During the reclamation process, as the OBHSM progresses through the rotary drum, the hydrocarbons and water undergo the evaporation (desorption) process while generating very dry solid residuals. The processed solids are conveyed at a high temperature into a conveyor where it is mixed with water for cooling before being discharged. The desorbed vapors are transported from the rotary drum into the system's Vapor Recovery Unit (VRU).

#### Vapor Recovery Unit

The main function of the VRU is to condense and recover the desorbed hydrocarbons, water vapor, and the solid particles present in the gas stream exiting the rotary drum. The VRU includes several main components including a quench section, venturi scrubber, separator, mist eliminator section, induced draft fan, and condenser. In the quench section, the gas stream is cooled by direct contact with finely atomized water droplets via multiple nozzles. The water spray system also removes additional solids from the gas stream.

As the gas temperature is reduced, most of the hydrocarbons are condensed before gases exit the quench section. The VRU is equipped with an integrated variable throat Venturi scrubber which removes fine solid particles from the gas stream. The dust-laden gas stream and the process water collide, dispersing the liquid into droplets that the particles impact and become entrapped within. These droplets, containing the fine solid particles, are removed from the gas stream in a horizontal cyclonic separator downstream of the Venturi scrubber.

The gas exiting the cyclonic separator passes through a mist eliminator to remove entrained water droplets before reaching the system ID fan. The process ID fan is equipped with a variable speed controlled drive, designed to maintain sufficient draft through the system to continuously transfer the vent gas through the process and control equipment. After the vent gas reaches the condenser (indirect heat exchanger), the gas temperature is reduced to less than 300°F to remove residual hydrocarbon vapors (the lighter hydrocarbons) from the gas stream.

After gas exits the condenser, it is routed through a flame arrester before being discharged into the thermal oxidizer for final polishing prior to discharge to the atmosphere.

#### Process Water System and Treatment

The condensates, residual fines/sediments, and water collected inside the VRU will be treated in an above ground API-type primary oil/water separator equipped with a fixed cover for VOC emission control. The recovered oil is collected using a stationary skimmer and is continuously pumped into an above ground storage tank. The recovered sediments/sludge is pumped from the API separator using a pneumatic pump and is recycled back into the TDU process. After the oil and suspended solids are removed from the influent in the API separator, the middle phase (water) is then pumped to an on-site storage tank for recycling.

A portion of the recovered water is pumped into a plate and frame heat exchanger where it is cooled and reused as cooling process water for the VRU. The cooling media for the plate and frame heat exchanger is also water. A portion of the water recaptured in the process will be processed through the wastewater treatment plant and also used to rehydrate residue from the thermal process. Water not recycled into the reclamation process and contact stormwater will be collected in containers (e.g., frac tanks) prior to treatment in its onsite wastewater treatment system.

Four package boilers will be utilized to generate steam (one on stand-by) for use in heating the heavier sludge materials to increase the ability to move these through the process.

Non-specified area sources can generate fugitive emissions from equipment that is in potential VOC service. These emissions are very small. Other emissions are from insignificant activities.

## 1.2 Proposed Modifications

This proposed action fits the definition of a minor modification as per LAC 33:III.525.A. Thermaldyne is requesting that minor modification procedures be used when processing this permit application. With this modification application, Thermaldyne is proposing several changes, described below.

Thermaldyne proposes to change the description of UNF 0001 from PAL LLC – Entire Facility-Port Allen Land, LLC to Thermaldyne, LLC – Entire Facility.

Thermaldyne proposes to change the description of CON 0002 from TDU Oxidizer Vent to Thermal Oxidizer.

Thermaldyne proposes to delete CON 0001, CSTK-1 – TDU Oxidizer/Desorber Common Stack to remove permitting of a common stack. The emissions that are currently permitted under CON 0001 are now proposed to be permitted under CON 0002, 1-2015 – Thermal Oxidizer and EQT 0008, 2-2015 – Desorber Heater (separate stacks).

There are no proposed changes to the Desorber Heater emission rates. The Thermal Oxidizer (CON 0002) is now proposed to only control the TDU Desorber Vent (EQT 0001) whereas in the current permit, CON 0002 controls:

- EQT 0001, 1-2015(a) – TDU Desorber Vent;
- EQT 0002, 1-2015(b) – Oil/Water Separator;
- EQT 0003, 1-2015(ca) – TK-1;
- EQT 0004, 1-2015(cb) – TK-2;
- EQT 0005, 1-2015(cc) – TK-3;
- EQT 0006, 1-2015(cd) – TK-4; and
- EQT 0007, 1-2015(ce) – TK-5.

Tanks 1-5 (EQT 0003 through EQT 0007, TK-1 through TK-5) are proposed to be deleted. These tanks are permitted for product, water treatment, mixing, and diesel. In the place of the product, mixing, and diesel tanks, Thermaldyne proposes to add the following atmospheric tanks:

- EQT TBD, 12-2018 - Product Tank No. 1;
- EQT TBD, 13-2018 - Product Tank No. 2;
- EQT TBD, 14-2018 - Oil Tank No. 1;
- EQT TBD, 15-2018 - Water Tank No. 1;
- EQT TBD, 16-2018 - Water Tank No. 2 (from Centrifuge);
- EQT TBD, 17-2018 - Oil Tank No. 2 (from Centrifuge);
- EQT TBD, 18-2018 - Blending Tank No. 1;
- EQT TBD, 19-2018 - Blending Tank No. 2;
- EQT TBD, 20-2018 - Process Tank No. 1;

- EQT TBD, 21-2018 - Process Tank No. 2; and
- EQT TBD, 22-2018 - Process Tank No. 3.

EQT 0002, 1-2015(b) – Oil/Water Separator is proposed to change to EQT 0002, 11-2018 – Wastewater Treatment System. Included with the system will be replacement tanks for EQT 0004 and EQT 0005 mentioned above that are currently permitted for water treating chemicals.

Thermaladyne proposes to rename EQT 0011, 6-2015 – Package Boiler to Package Boiler No. 1 and to add the following sources:

- EQT TBD, 7-2018 – Package Boiler No. 2;
- EQT TBD, 8-2018 - Package Boiler No. 3; and
- EQT TBD, 9-2018 - Package Boiler No. 4.

The following emission point sources are also proposed to be added:

- EQT TBD, 10-2018 - Material Handling Building;
- EQT TBD, 23-2018 - Roll-off Boxes;
- EQT TBD, 24-2018 - TDU Solids Loading;
- EQT TBD, 25-2018 - Finished Catalyst Loading;
- EQT TBD, 26-2018 - Catalyst Solids Loading;
- EQT TBD, 27-2018 – Catalyst Screening;
- EQT TBD, 28-2018 - Processed Solids Discharge Conveyor; and
- EQT TBD, 29-2018 - Emergency Diesel Generator.

Thermaladyne proposes to delete EQT 0010, 5-2015 – Baghouse. Material handling located in the Material Handling Building (EQT TBD, 10-2018) is proposed to be controlled with capture (75% efficiency) and scrubber/carbon bed control (99% efficiency).

There are no proposed changes to the fugitives (FUG 0001, 3-2015 – Fugitive Emissions) or loading (EQT 0009, 4-2015 – Loading Emissions) emission rates.

Thermaladyne proposed to increase the number of tank cleanings for the current permitted GCXVII Activity and add carbon bed maintenance and strainer maintenance. New Insignificant Activities proposed are two (2) diesel tanks per LAC 33:III.501.B.5.A.3.

### 1.3 Regulatory Applicability

Section 19 of the AAEAP contains the air quality requirements for the affected sources included in this minor source permit modification application.

Thermaladyne requests removal of LAC 33:III.1311.C from CON 0002, EQT 0008, and EQT 0011 and the addition of LAC 33:III.1313.C to CON 0002 and EQT 0011.


### 1.4 Proposed Emission Changes

With this modification, the facility will remain a minor source of regulated air pollutants. Tabulated emissions are provided in Table 1 below.

**Table 1**  
**Facility Emissions Summary**

Pollutant	Permitted Emissions (tpy)	Proposed Emissions (tpy)	Net Change (tpy)
PM <sub>10</sub>	4.57	1.52	-3.05
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	4.57	1.50	-3.07
SO <sub>2</sub>	0.14	0.13	-0.01
NO <sub>x</sub>	11.81	20.15	8.34
CO	18.03	18.22	0.19
Total VOC	20.00	24.48	4.48

**2.0 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF EMISSIONS OF AIR POLLUTANTS FROM MINOR SOURCES**

Department of Environmental Quality Office of Environmental Services Air Permits Division P.O. Box 4313 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313 (225) 219-3417	<h1 style="text-align: center;">LOUISIANA</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Application for Approval of Emissions of Air Pollutants from Minor Sources</h2>	
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PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

### 1. Facility Information [LAC 33:III.517.D.1]

Facility Name (if any) Port Allen Facility	
Agency Interest Number (A.I. Number) 198467	Currently Effective Permit Number(s) 3120-00116-00
Company - Name of Owner Thermaladyne, LLC	
Company - Name of Operator (if different from Owner)	
Parent Company (if Company - Name of Owner given above is a division)	

#### Ownership:

Check the appropriate box.

- ☐ corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship  
 ☐ regulated utility  
 ☐ municipal government  
☐ state government  
 ☐ federal government  
☒ other, specify LLC

### 2. Physical Location and Process Description

[LAC 33:III.517.D.18, unless otherwise stated]

*What does this facility produce? Add more rows as necessary.*

This facility processes oil-bearing hazardous secondary materials for oil reclamation.

*What modifications/changes are proposed in this application? Add more rows as necessary.*

See Section 1.2 of the report text.

Nearest town (in the same parish as the facility):

Port Allen

Parish(es) where facility is located:

West Baton Rouge

Distance To (mi):

142 Texas

170 Arkansas

32 Mississippi

166 Alabama

Latitude of Facility Front Gate:

30 Deg

29 Min

26 Sec

0.3 Hundredths

Longitude of Facility Front Gate:

-91 Deg

13 Min

06 Sec

0.01 Hundredths

*Add physical address and description of location of the facility below. If the facility has no address, provide driving directions. Add more rows as necessary.*

2325 North Line Road, Port Allen, LA 70767

- ☒ Map attached (required per LAC 33:III.517.D.1)  
☒ Description of processes and products attached (required per LAC 33:III.517.D.2)  
☒ Introduction/Description of the proposed project attached (required per LAC 33:III.517.D.5)  
☐ Evidence of compliance with local zoning ordinance for proposed location  
 (required per LAC 33:III.513.C.1.a; for Portable Facilities only)



### 3. Confidentiality [LAC 33.I.Chapter 5]

Are you requesting confidentiality for any information except air pollutant emission rates? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "yes," list the sections for which confidentiality is requested below. Add rows as necessary. Confidentiality requests require a submittal that is separate from this application. Information for which confidentiality is requested should not be submitted with this application. Consult instructions.

### 4. Type of Application [LAC 33:III.517.D]

Check all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Minor Source	<input type="checkbox"/> Synthetic Minor Source	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Source	<input type="checkbox"/> Portable Facility
<input type="checkbox"/> Minor Source Oil & Gas General Permit (MSOG)*			
<input type="checkbox"/> Minor Source Surface Coating and Fabrication General Permit (SCF)*			
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal			
Select one, if applicable:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entirely new facility			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modification or expansion of existing facility (may also include reconciliations)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Reconciliation only			

\*Additional separate submittal required. See instructions for more details.

If "Portable Facility" was selected above, please enter the Make, Model, and Serial Number of each portable combustion emissions source to be permitted. Otherwise, leave blank. Do *NOT* list any motor vehicles. Add rows as necessary.

Make

Model

Serial Number

Does this submittal update or replace an application currently under review? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, provide date that the prior application was submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Select one if this application is for an existing facility that does not have an air quality permit:

- ☐ Previously Grandfathered (LAC 33:III.501.B.6)
- ☐ Previously Exempted (e.g., Small Source Exemption; LAC 33:III.501.B.2.d)
- ☐ Previously Unpermitted

### 5. Fee Information [LAC 33:III.517.D.17]

**Fee Parameter:** If the fee code is based on an operational parameter (such as number of employees or capital cost), enter that parameter here. \_\_\_\_\_

**Industrial Category:** Enter the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Codes that apply to the facility.

**Primary SICC:** 2992 **Primary NAICS Code:** 324191

**Secondary SICC(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Fee Calculation:** Enter fee code, permit type, production capacity/throughput, and fee amount pursuant to LAC 33:III.Chapter 2. Include with the application the amount in the Grand Total blank as the permit application fee.

FEE CODE	TYPE	EXISTING CAPACITY	INCREMENTAL CAPACITY INCREASE	MULTIPLIER	SURCHARGES		TOTAL AMOUNT
					NSPS	AIR TOXICS	
1722	Minor				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500
GRAND TOTAL							\$500

**\*\*Optional\*\* Fee Explanation:** Use the space provided to give an explanation of the fee determination displayed above.



**Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT):** If paying the permit application fee using an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT), please include the EFT Transaction Number, the Date that the EFT was made, and the total dollar amount submitted in the EFT. If not paying the permit application fee using EFT, leave blank.

EFT Transaction Number

Date of Submittal

Total Dollar Amount

\$

## 6. Key Dates

Estimated date construction will commence: On-going Estimated date operation will commence: 9/1/18

## 7. LAC 33:I.1701 Requirements – Answer all below for new sources and permit renewals - ☐ Yes ☒ No

Does the company or owner have federal or state environmental permits identical to, or of a similar nature to, the permit for which you are applying in Louisiana or other states? (This requirement applies to all individuals, partnerships, corporations, or other entities who own a controlling interest of 50% or more in your company, or who participate in the environmental management of the facility for an entity applying for the permit or an ownership interest in the permit.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, list States: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you owe any outstanding fees or final penalties to the Department? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If yes, explain below. Add rows if necessary.

Is your company a corporation or limited liability company? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, attach a copy of your company's Certificate of Registration and/or Certificate of Good Standing from the Secretary of State. The appropriate certificate(s) should be attached to the end of this application as an appendix.

## 8. Certification of Compliance With Applicable Requirements


Statement for Applicable Requirements for Which the Company and Facility Referenced In This Application Is In Compliance

Based on information and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry, the company and facility referenced in this application is in compliance with and will continue to comply with all applicable requirements pertaining to the sources covered by the permit application, as outlined in Tables 1 and 2 in the permit application. For requirements promulgated as of the date of this certification with compliance dates effective during the permit term, I further certify that the company and facility referenced in this application will comply with such requirements on a timely basis and will continue to comply with such requirements.

*For corporations only:* By signing this form, I certify that, in accordance with the definition of Responsible Official found in LAC 33:III.502, **(1)** I am a president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president in charge of a principal business function, or other person who performs similar policy or decision-making functions; or **(2)** I am a duly authorized representative of such person; am responsible for the overall operation of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities addressed in this permit application; and either the facilities employ more than 250 persons or have gross annual sales or expenditures exceeding \$25 million (in second quarter 1980 dollars); or the delegation of authority has been approved by LDEQ prior to this certification.\*

**CERTIFICATION:** I certify, under provisions in Louisiana and United States law which provide criminal penalties for false statements, that based on information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the statements and information contained in this Application for Approval of Emissions of Air Pollutants from Minor Sources, including all attachments thereto and the compliance statement above, are true, accurate, and complete.

a. Responsible Official		
Name Richard Cates		
Title President		
Company Thermalayne, LLC		
Suite, mail drop, or division		
Street or P.O. Box 45 Maryeanna Drive		
City Atlanta	State Georgia	Zip 30342
Business phone 337-288-4600		
Email Address rcates@thermalayne.com		

Signature of responsible official (See LAC 33:III.502): 
Date: 6/26/18

\*Approval of a delegation of authority can be requested by completing a Duly Authorized Representative Designation Form (Form 7218) available on LDEQ's website at <http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/air-permit-applications>

## 9. Personnel [LAC 33:III.517.D.1]

<b>a. Manager of Facility who is located at plant site</b>		
Name Richard Cates		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary contact
Title President		
Company Thermaladyne, LLC		
Suite, mail drop, or division		
Street or P.O. Box 45 Maryeanna Drive		
City Atlanta	State Georgia	Zip 30342
Business phone 337-288-4600	Mobile Phone 337-288-4600	
Email address rcates@thermaladyne.com		

<b>b. On-site contact regarding air pollution control</b>		
Name		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary contact
Title		
Company		
Suite, mail drop, or division		
Street or P.O. Box		
City	State	Zip
Business phone	Mobile Phone	
Email address		

<b>c. Person to contact with written correspondence</b>		
Name		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary contact
Title		
Company		
Suite, mail drop, or division		
Street or P.O. Box		
City	State	Zip
Business phone		
Email address		

<b>d. Person who prepared this report</b>		
Name		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary contact
Title		
Company		
Suite, mail drop, or division		
Street or P.O. Box		
City	State	Zip
Business phone		
Email address		

<b>e. Person to contact about Annual Maintenance Fees</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a <input type="checkbox"/> b <input type="checkbox"/> c <input type="checkbox"/> d <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify below)	
Name		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary contact	
Title		Suite, mail drop, or division	
Company		Street or P.O. Box	
Business Phone		City	State Zip
		Email Address	

## 10. Proposed Project Emissions [LAC 33:III.517.D.3]

List the total emissions following the proposed project for this facility or process unit (for process unit-specific permits). Speciate all criteria pollutants, TAP, and HAP for the proposed project.

[illegible]

List each of the following in chronological order:

- [illegible]

**12.a. Enforcement Actions [LAC 33:III.517.D.18]-** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, list all federal and state air quality enforcement actions, settlement agreements, and consent decrees received for this facility since the issuance of the currently effective Title V Operating Permit or State Operating Permit. For each action, list the type of action (or its tracking number), the regulatory authority or authorities that issued the action, and the date that the action was issued. Summarize the conditions imposed by the enforcement action, settlement agreement, and consent decree in Section 19, Table 2. It is not necessary to submit a copy of the referenced action. Add rows to table as necessary.

Type of Action or Tracking Number	Issuing Authority	Date Action Issued	Summary of Conditions Included?
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**12.b. Schedule for Compliance [LAC 33:III.517.D.16]** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If the facility for which application is being made is not in full compliance with all applicable regulations, give a description of how compliance will be achieved, including a schedule for compliance below. Add rows as necessary. See instructions.


**13. Letters of Approval for Alternate Methods of Compliance-** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, list all correspondence with LDEQ, EPA, or other regulatory bodies that provides for or supports a request for alternate methods of compliance with any applicable regulations for this facility. List the date of issuance of the letter and the regulation referenced by the letter. **Attach as an appendix a copy of all documents referenced in this table.** Letters that are not included may not be incorporated into a final permit. Add rows to table as necessary.

Date Letter Issued	Issuing Authority	Referenced Regulation(s)	Copy of Letter Attached?
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**14. Initial Notifications and Performance Tests [LAC 33:III.517.D.18] -** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, list any initial notifications that have been submitted or one-time performance tests that have been performed for this facility since the issuance of the currently effective Title V Operating Permit or State Operating Permit in order to satisfy regulatory requirements. Any initial notification or one-time performance test requirements that have not been satisfied should be listed in Section 19, Table 2 of this application. Any notifications or performance tests that recur periodically should also be properly noted in Section 19, Table 2 of this application. Add rows to table as necessary.

Initial Notification or One-time Performance Test?	Regulatory Citation Satisfied	Date Completed/Approved

### 15. Air Quality Dispersion Modeling [LAC 33:III.517.D.15]

*Was Air Quality Dispersion Modeling as required by LAC 33:III performed in support of this permit application? (Air Quality Dispersion Modeling is required when requested by LDEQ.)*

☐ Yes ☒ No

*Has Air Quality Dispersion Modeling completed in accordance with LAC 33:III ever been performed for this facility in support of an air permit application previously submitted for this facility or as required by other regulations AND approved by LDEQ?*

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, enter the date the most recent Air Quality Dispersion Modeling results as required by LAC 33:III were submitted:

If the answer to either question above is "yes," enter a summary of the most recent results in the following table. If the answer to both questions is "no," enter "none" in the table. Add rows to table as necessary.

Pollutant	Time Period	Calculated Maximum Ground Level Concentration	Louisiana Toxic Air Pollutant Ambient Air Standard or (National Ambient Air Quality Standard {NAAQS})



**16. General Condition XVII Activities [LAC 33:III.537]- ☒ Yes ☐ No**

Enter all activities that qualify as Louisiana Air Emissions Permit General Condition XVII Activities.

- Expand this table as necessary to include all such activities.
- See instructions to determine what qualifies as a General Condition XVII Activity.
- Do not include emissions from General Condition XVII Activities in the proposed emissions totals for the permit application.
- The "Schedule" blank for each proposed General Condition XVII Activity is a **required** entry.

Work Activity	Schedule	Emission Rates – TPY					
		PM <sub>10</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	VOC	Other
Tank Cleaning	Twenty per year					3.03 tpy	
Carbon Bed Maintenance	Twice per month					0.12 tpy	
Strainer Maintenance	Once per month					0.04 tpy	

**17. Insignificant Activities [LAC 33:III.501.B.5] - ☒ Yes ☐ No**

Enter all activities that qualify as Insignificant Activities.

- Expand this table as necessary to include all such activities.
- For sources claimed to be insignificant based on size or emission rate (LAC 33:III.501.B.5.A), information must be supplied to verify each claim. This may include but is not limited to operating hours, volumes, and heat input ratings.
- If aggregate emissions from all similar pieces of equipment claimed to be insignificant are greater than 5 tons per year for any pollutant, then the activities can not be claimed as insignificant and must be represented as permitted emission sources. Aggregate emissions shall mean the total emissions from a particular insignificant activity or group of similar insignificant activities (e.g., A.1, A.2, etc.) within a permit per year.

Emission Point ID No.	Description	Physical/Operating Data	Citation
IA No. 1	Diesel Tank	1,000 gal	LAC 33:III.501.B.5.A.3
IA No. 2	Diesel Tank	250 gal	LAC 33:III.501.B.5.A.3



**18. Regulatory Applicability for Commonly Applicable Regulations – Answer all below [LAC 33:III.517.D.10]**

*Does this facility contain asbestos or asbestos containing materials?* ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "yes," the facility or any portion thereof may be subject to 40 CFR 61, Subpart M, LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, and/or LAC 33:III.5151, and this application must address compliance as stated in Section 19 of this application.

*Is the facility represented in this permit subject to 40 CFR 68?* ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "yes," the entire facility is subject to 40 CFR 68 and LAC 33:III.Chapter 59, and this application must address compliance as stated in Section 19 of this application.

*Is the facility listed in LAC 33:III.5611?*

Table 5 ☐ Yes ☒ No

Table 6 ☐ Yes ☒ No

Table 7 ☐ Yes ☒ No

*Does the applicant own or operate commercial refrigeration equipment normally containing more than 50 pounds of refrigerant at this facility?* ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "yes," the entire facility is subject to 40 CFR 82, Subpart F, and this application must address compliance as stated in Section 19 of this application.

## 19. Applicable Regulations, Air Pollution Control Measures, Monitoring, and Recordkeeping

Important points for Table 1 [LAC 33:III.517.D.10]:

- List in Table 1, by Emission Point ID Number and Descriptive Name of the Equipment, state and federal pollution abatement programs and note the applicability or non-applicability of the regulations to each source.
- Adjust the headings for the columns in Table 1 as necessary to reflect all applicable regulations, in addition to any regulations that do not apply but require an explanation to substantiate this fact.
- For each piece of equipment, enter "1" for each regulation that applies. Enter "2" for each regulation that applies to this type of source, but from which this source of emissions is exempt. Enter "3" for equipment that is subject to a regulation, but does not have any applicable requirements. Also, enter "3" for each regulation that has applicable requirements that apply to the particular emission source, but the regulations currently do not apply due to meeting a specific criterion, such as it has not been constructed, modified, or reconstructed since the regulations have been in place.
- Leave the spaces blank when the regulations clearly would not apply under any circumstances to the source. For example, LAC 33:III.2103 – Storage of Volatile Organic Compounds would never apply to a steam generating boiler, no matter the circumstances.
- Consult instructions.

Important points for Table 2 [LAC 33:III.517.D.10]:

- For each piece of equipment listed in Table 2, include all applicable limitations, recordkeeping, reporting, monitoring, and testing requirements. Also, include any one-time notification or one-time performance test requirements that have not been fulfilled.
- Each of these regulatory aspects (limitations, recordkeeping, reporting, etc.) should be addressed for each regulation that is applicable to each emissions source or emissions point.
- For each regulation that provides a choice regarding the method of compliance, indicate the method of compliance that will be employed. It is not sufficient to state that all compliance options will be employed, though multiple compliance options may be approved as alternative operating scenarios.
- Consult instructions.

Important points for Table 3 [LAC 33:III.517.D.16]:

- Each time a 2 or a 3 is used to describe applicability of a source in Table 1, an entry should be made in Table 3 that explains the exemption or non-applicability status of the regulation to that source.
- Fill in all requested information in the table.
- The exact regulatory citation that provides for the specific exemption or non-applicability determination should be entered into the "Citation Providing for Exemption or Non-applicability" column.
- Consult Instructions.

Important points for Table 4 [LAC 33:III.517.D.18]:

- List any single emission source that routes its emissions to another point where these emissions are commingled with the emissions of other sources before being released to the atmosphere. Do not list any single emission source in this table that does not route its emissions in this manner.
- List any and all emission sources that are routed as described above. This includes emission sources that do not otherwise appear in this permit application.
- Consult instructions.

TABLE 1: APPLICABLE LOUISIANA AND FEDERAL AIR QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

Thermaladyne, LLC - Port Allen Facility

West Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana

Source ID No.	Descriptive Name of the Source	LAC 33:III, Chapter										LAC 33:III,				
		5	9	11	13	15	22	29	51	56	59	2103	2109	2113	2115	2121
UNF 0001	Thermaladyne, LLC - Entire Facility	1	1	1	1		1		3	1	3			1	3	3
CON 0002	1-2015 - Thermal Oxidizer	1		1	1	3	2									
EQT 0001	1-2015(a) - TDU Desorber Vent															
EQT 0002	11-2018 - Wastewater Treatment Plant												2			
EQT 0008	2-2015 - Desorber Heater			1	1	3	2									
EQT 0011	6-2015 - Package Boiler No. 1			3	1	3	2									
EQT TBD	7-2018 - Package Boiler No. 2			3	1	3	2									
EQT TBD	8-2018 - Package Boiler No. 3			3	1	3	2									
EQT TBD	9-2018 - Package Boiler No. 4			3	1	3	2									
EQT TBD	10-2018 - Material Handling Building		1												2	
EQT TBD	10-2018(a) - Low Solids OBHSM Pit														2	
EQT TBD	10-2018(b) - Dewatering Unit														2	
EQT TBD	10-2018(c) - Solids Containment Area														2	
EQT TBD	10-2018(d) - Cleaning of Trucks & Roll-off Boxes														2	
EQT TBD	12-2018 - Product Tank No. 1											3				
EQT TBD	13-2018 - Product Tank No. 2											3				
EQT TBD	14-2018 - Oil Tank No. 1											3				
EQT TBD	15-2018 - Water Tank No. 1											3				
EQT TBD	16-2018 - Water Tank No. 2 (from Centrifuge)											3				
EQT TBD	17-2018 - Oil Tank No. 2 (from Centrifuge)											3				
EQT TBD	18-2018 - Blending Tank No. 1											3				
EQT TBD	19-2018 - Blending Tank No. 2											3				
EQT TBD	20-2018 - Process Tank No. 1											3				
EQT TBD	21-2018 - Process Tank No. 2											3				
EQT TBD	22-2018 - Process Tank No. 3											3				
EQT TBD	23-2018 - Roll-off Boxes				1											
EQT TBD	24-2018 - TDU Solids Loading				1											
EQT TBD	25-2018 - Finished Catalyst Loading				1											
EQT TBD	26-2018 - Catalyst Solids Loading				1											
EQT TBD	27-2018 - Catalyst Screening				1											
EQT TBD	28-2018 - Processed Solids Discharge Conveyor				1											
EQT TBD	29-2018 - Emergency Diesel Generator			1	1	3	2									

TABLE 1: APPLICABLE LOUISIANA AND FEDERAL AIR QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

Thermaidyne, LLC - Port Allen Facility  
West Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana

Source ID No.	Descriptive Name of the Source	40 CFR 60						40 CFR 61		40 CFR 63			40 CFR		
		A	D	Db	Dc	Kb	IIII	A	FF	A	VV	ZZZZ	64	68	82
UNF 0001	Thermaidyne, LLC - Entire Facility												3	3	3
CON 0002	1-2015 - Thermal Oxidizer		3	3	3										
EQT 0001	1-2015(a) - TDU Desorber Vent														
EQT 0002	11-2018 - Wastewater Treatment Plant														
EQT 0008	2-2015 - Desorber Heater		3	3	3										
EQT 0011	6-2015 - Package Boiler No. 1				3										
EQT TBD	7-2018 - Package Boiler No. 2				3										
EQT TBD	8-2018 - Package Boiler No. 3				3										
EQT TBD	9-2018 - Package Boiler No. 4				3										
EQT TBD	10-2018 - Material Handling Building														
EQT TBD	10-2018(a) - Low Solids OBHSM Pit														
EQT TBD	10-2018(b) - Dewatering Unit														
EQT TBD	10-2018(c) - Solids Containment Area														
EQT TBD	10-2018(d) - Cleaning of Trucks & Roll-off Boxes														
EQT TBD	12-2018 - Product Tank No. 1					3									
EQT TBD	13-2018 - Product Tank No. 2					3									
EQT TBD	14-2018 - Oil Tank No. 1					3									
EQT TBD	15-2018 - Water Tank No. 1					3									
EQT TBD	16-2018 - Water Tank No. 2 (from Centrifuge)					3									
EQT TBD	17-2018 - Oil Tank No. 2 (from Centrifuge)					3									
EQT TBD	18-2018 - Blending Tank No. 1					3									
EQT TBD	19-2018 - Blending Tank No. 2					3									
EQT TBD	20-2018 - Process Tank No. 1					3									
EQT TBD	21-2018 - Process Tank No. 2					3									
EQT TBD	22-2018 - Process Tank No. 3					3									
EQT TBD	23-2018 - Roll-off Boxes														
EQT TBD	24-2018 - TDU Solids Loading														
EQT TBD	25-2018 - Finished Catalyst Loading														
EQT TBD	26-2018 - Catalyst Solids Loading														
EQT TBD	27-2018 - Catalyst Screening														
EQT TBD	28-2018 - Processed Solids Discharge Conveyor														
EQT TBD	29-2018 - Emergency Diesel Generator	1					1					1			

## KEY:

- 1 The regulations have applicable requirements, which apply to this particular emission source. The emissions source may have an exemption from the control stated in the regulation. The emission source may not have to be controlled but may have monitoring, recordkeeping, or reporting requirements.
- 2 The regulations have applicable requirements, which may apply to this particular emissions source, but the source is currently exempt from these requirements due to meeting a specific criteria, such as it has been constructed, modified, or reconstructed since the regulations have been in place. If the specific criteria changes the source will have to comply at a future date.
- 3 The regulations apply to this general type of emission source (i.e. vents, furnaces, towers, and fugitives) but do not apply to this particular emission source.

Message

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**From:** Elliott, Ross [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=33CB08013CC94C21A3E3236DBAD4C4A4-REELLIOT]  
**Sent:** 3/1/2018 4:40:56 PM  
**To:** Atagi, Tracy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ebcfd670077440dfb63a691749f20af2-TATAGI]  
**CC:** Young, Jessica [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=26404c78d3dc441f810ac723cf8f9d49-JBIEGELS]  
**Subject:** RE: If you or someone want to join us for airbags, I can send a note when it starts.

Starting on airbags now. We're in 6100. Thanks.

p.s. – ETC also wants to discuss TDUs, but such a late addition they said if not ready now, definitely want to meet soon.

---

**From:** Atagi, Tracy  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 1, 2018 11:14 AM  
**To:** Young, Jessica <Young.Jessica@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Elliott, Ross <Elliott.Ross@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: If you or someone want to join us for airbags, I can send a note when it starts.

I'll stay on call at my computer. Thanks.

---

**From:** Young, Jessica  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 1, 2018 11:11 AM  
**To:** Atagi, Tracy  
**Cc:** Elliott, Ross  
**Subject:** Fwd: If you or someone want to join us for airbags, I can send a note when it starts.

Can you let Tracy know? I am in a meeting with DEA and DOT on pharms take back.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Elliott, Ross" <Elliott.Ross@epa.gov>  
**Date:** March 1, 2018 at 11:07:21 AM EST  
**To:** "Young, Jessica" <Young.Jessica@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** If you or someone want to join us for airbags, I can send a note when it starts.

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460**

OFFICE OF  
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE

Mr. Parker E. Brugge  
Patton Boggs, L.L.P.  
2550 M Street, N. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-1350

Dear Mr. Brugge:

This letter is in response to your April 7, 1998, letter seeking clarification on the distinction between thermal desorbers and incinerators. Under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations (40 CFR 260.10), thermal treatment units that are enclosed devices using controlled flame combustion, and that are neither boilers nor industrial furnaces, are classified as incinerators subject to regulation under 40 CFR Part 264, Subpart 0. Thermal treatment units that do not use controlled flame combustion, and that are neither boilers nor industrial furnaces, are classified as "miscellaneous units" subject to regulation under 40 CFR Part 264, Subpart X.

EPA regulations do not define "thermal desorber", but the term generally applies to a unit that treats waste thermally to extract the contaminants from the matrix. A thermal desorber utilizing controlled flame combustion (e.g., equipped with a directly fired desorption chamber and/or a fired afterburner to destroy organics) would meet the regulatory definition of an incinerator. On the other hand, a thermal desorber that did not use controlled flame combustion (e.g., equipped with an indirectly heated desorption chamber and the desorbed organics were not "controlled"/destroyed with an afterburner) would be classified as a "miscellaneous unit".

With regard to the September 1993 Presumptive Remedy guidance entitled: "Presumptive Remedies: Site Characterization and Technology Selection for CERCLA Sites with Volatile Organic Compounds in Soils" (Directive Number 9355.0-48FS) that you mentioned, EPA identified thermal desorption and incineration as the second and third preferred technologies, respectively. The intent of the guidance is that units that can be generally described as thermal desorbers, whether or not they are also incinerators, are second in the preference list. However, if a thermal desorber that meets the RCRA definition of incinerator is used to treat hazardous waste at a CERCLA site, the unit must meet RCRA's incinerator standards, EPA developed the preferential order set out in this guidance based on historical patterns of remedy selection and EPA's

RO 14266



scientific and engineering evaluation of performance data on technology implementation. There was no intent implied or stated in the Presumptive Remedy guidance that the preferential order was based on the temperature of operation; the guidance does not limit the thermal desorbers technologies to those that are low-temperature thermal desorbers.

We appreciate that as technologies evolve, the distinctions between units often become blurred, and, in the case of thermal desorbers, may fail within two separate classifications depending on the design of the unit. Classification of a "thermal treatment" unit, however, is defined by 40 CFR 260.10.

Both the RCRA regulatory framework and the CERCLA remedy selection process provide adequate flexibility to ensure that the unit is operated in a protective manner and that there is adequate and informed public participation. If you have any further questions, please contact either Andrew O'Palko, Office of Solid Waste, at (703) 308-8646 or Robin Anderson, Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, at (703) 603-8747.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Cotsworth  
Acting Director  
Office of Solid Waste

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Luftig  
Director  
Office of Emergency and  
Remedial Response

cc: Andrew O'Palko, OSW  
Bob Holloway, OSW  
Robin Anderson, OERR  
Karen Kraus, OGC  
Superfund Regional Response Managers  
RCRA Senior Policy Advisors

PATTON BOGGS, L.L.P.

2550 M STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037-1350  
(202) 457-6000 (202) 457-5225

April 2, 1998

Ms. Elizabeth A. Cotsworth  
Acting Director  
Office of Solid Waste  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M Street, S.W. (5301W)  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Ms. Cotsworth:

I am writing to seek clarification on the distinction between thermal desorbers and incinerators.

It is my understanding that thermal treatment units which are enclosed devices using controlled flame combustion, and that are neither boilers nor industrial furnaces, are classified as incinerators subject to regulation under 40 CFR Part 264, Subpart O. It is also my understanding that thermal treatment units which do not use controlled flame combustion, and that are not industrial furnaces, are classified as "miscellaneous units" subject to regulation under 40 CFR Part 264, Subpart X.

Thus, a thermal desorber is subject to regulation as an incinerator if it is equipped with a fired afterburner, or if the desorption chamber is directly fired. However, I would assume that, although such a device is subject to regulation under Subpart O, it nevertheless remains a "thermal desorber." The fact that it must meet the standards set forth in Subpart O for incinerators does not transform it somehow into an incinerator for CERCLA purposes.

For example, EPA issued guidance in September 1993 explaining that at a Superfund site which has soil contaminated with volatile organic compounds, the range of remedial technologies set forth in a Record of Decision may be soil-vapor extraction ("SVE"), low-temperature thermal desorption ("LTTD"), and incineration. The preferred order is SVE, LTTD, and, as a last resort, incineration. A thermal desorber with a fired afterburner, or one whose desorption chamber is directly fired, must fall within the "thermal desorption" family of technologies, even though it would be subject to regulation under Subpart O as an incinerator.

To hold otherwise would disqualify the large majority of LTTD units, which are directly fired and use afterburners for air pollution control. This result would be contrary to EPA's CERCLA guidance and to the Administrator's emphasis on reducing incineration which involves the high-temperature burning of contaminated soil.

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PATTON BOGGS, L.L.P.  
Ms. Elizabeth A. Cotsworth  
April 2, 1998  
Page 2

There appears to be some confusion on this issue, for which we would appreciate your help in clarifying. Please call me if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Parker E. Brugge

cc: Bob Holloway

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ED\_002099\_0000101-00004



# Environmental Technology Council

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**By Certified U.S. Mail**

1112 16th Street, NW  
Suite 420  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: (202) 783-0870  
Fax: (202) 737-2038  
[www.etc.org](http://www.etc.org)

July 29, 2016

Ms. Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator  
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Mail Code 2201A)  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Request For A Meeting To Discuss Inconsistent Compliance  
For Thermal Desorption Units That Process Hazardous Waste

Dear Ms. Giles:

The Environmental Technology Council, the trade association for the hazardous waste management industry, requests a meeting to discuss inconsistent enforcement and compliance policies being applied by different EPA regional offices to so-called Thermal Desorption Units (TDUs) that are used to thermally destroy hazardous wastes. Due to the significance of this matter, a meeting is requested at your earliest opportunity so that we can discuss measures to better insure enforcement consistency for the hazardous waste industry.

## **Who we are**

The Environmental Technology Council (ETC) is a national trade association whose mission is “to promote the protection of public health and the environment through the adoption of environmentally sound procedures and technologies for recycling and detoxifying industrial wastes and by-products and properly managing and disposing of wastes and waste residues.” *See [www.etc.org](http://www.etc.org).* Consistent with this mission, ETC members have a substantial interest in insuring consistency on how environmental compliance requirements are applied within our industry.

## **Why we’ve contacted you**

ETC understands that the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) will address pollution problems that impact American communities through vigorous civil and criminal enforcement that targets the most serious water, air and chemical hazards. As part of this mission, OECA works to advance environmental justice by protecting communities most vulnerable to pollution. Due to the human health risks and environmental justice concerns of burning hazardous wastes in TDUs without a permit under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), ETC believes that OECA should be briefed on the serious matter.

## **Who this matter concerns**

Tradebe Treatment and Recycling, LLC (“Tradebe”), located at 4343 Kennedy Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana, owns and operates two TDUs that process significant volumes of hazardous waste. Tradebe’s overall operations include hazardous waste fuel blending, lab pack depacking and bulking, tank storage and treatment, and container storage, all of which are subject to RCRA Permit USEPA ID # IND 000646943. However, the two TDUs for thermally destroying hazardous wastes are allegedly “exempted” from the company’s RCRA permit. Tradebe uses the TDUs to treat an extensive list of hazardous wastes such as “paint waste, solvent soaked rags, resins, polymers, plastics, production debris, and discarded commercial chemicals” as advertised in their own sales brochure (Attachment A hereto). As EPA is aware, the term “treatment” is broadly defined in RCRA to include “any method, technique, or process” that is designed to change “the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any hazardous waste.” The Tradebe TDUs are engaged in thermal destruction of a significant portion of the hazardous waste feed to those units in addition to desorbing some organic compounds for recovery. By statute and regulation, any “person owning or operating an existing facility ... for the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste” must have a permit issued under RCRA. 40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b).

Tradebe’s TDUs have a combined total maximum throughput rate of 78,000 tons of hazardous waste per year, which is comparable to a large, commercial RCRA-permitted incinerator.

## **Inconsistent enforcement between EPA Region 5 and other EPA regional offices**

EPA Region 5 has not required Tradebe to include the TDUs within the company’s current RCRA permit and has not taken any enforcement action with respect to the ongoing thermal destruction of hazardous wastes in those units. In contrast, in 2008 EPA Region 6 pursued an enforcement action against Rineco Chemical Industries in Benton, Arkansas, for thermal destruction of hazardous wastes in a TDU without a RCRA permit. The Federal district court agreed with Region 6 and ordered Rineco to obtain a RCRA permit or cease its TDU operations. *United States v. Rineco Chemical Industries, Inc.*, 2009 WL 801608 (E.D. Ark. 2009) (Attachment B). Likewise, EPA Region 6 entered into a Consent Agreement and Final Order with US Ecology Texas, Inc. and TD\*X Associates L.P. to require a RCRA permit for thermal destruction of hazardous wastes in a TDU. [https://yosemite.epa.gov/OA/RHC/EPAAdmin.nsf/Filings/77636784A15FA1CC85257E05001BBF43/\\$File/usecology2.pdf](https://yosemite.epa.gov/OA/RHC/EPAAdmin.nsf/Filings/77636784A15FA1CC85257E05001BBF43/$File/usecology2.pdf). Recently, EPA Region 6 submitted comments on a draft RCRA permit for two TDUs to be operated by Chemical Waste Management in Carlyss, Louisiana, confirming that the RCRA permit should include controls similar to a hazardous waste incinerator (Attachment C).

The positions of EPA Region 5 and EPA Region 6 with respect to RCRA permits and enforcement for TDUs that thermally destroy hazardous wastes means that human health and environmental protection depends on the region where a TDU is located, not on consistent EPA enforcement and compliance. The conflicting positions of EPA Region 5 and Region 6 also create an unlevel regulatory program for the hazardous waste industry.

## Thermal destruction of hazardous waste in TDUs

There can be no doubt that the Tradebe TDUs are engaged in the thermal destruction of a significant portion of the hazardous waste feed, even if they are also engaged in some recovery of liquid organics through desorption. The fact that the TDUs are used to recover organics does not exempt the thermal destruction of hazardous wastes from RCRA requirements. Thermal destruction is demonstrated by the following:

1. A mass balance of the hazardous wastes fed to the Tradebe TDUs compared to the recovered organics, metal, and other residuals, reveals that a significant volume of waste feed is thermally disposed. The court in *U.S. v. Rineco* used this mass balance test to determine that Rineco's TDU was engaged in unregulated thermal destruction in violation of RCRA. The court used Rineco's own documentation to show that a substantial percentage of waste fed to the unit "was unaccounted for, *i.e.*, disposed of, burned, or incinerated in the treatment process". 2009 WL 801608 at 9. Per Tradebe's own advertising brochure (Attachment A), Tradebe processes 36,000 tons of hazardous waste per year in the TDUs and recovers only 7,000 tons of scrap metal and 10,200 tons of solvent. Even accounting for an estimated 10,000 tons of other residuals, primarily water and char, only 27,000 tons of hazardous waste feed can be accounted for on a mass balance basis. That means that at least 9,000 tons of hazardous waste, or 25% of the waste feed, is thermally destroyed in the TDUs per year without a RCRA permit.
2. There are no controls on the hazardous wastes that are fed to the TDUs, and the feed is not restricted to wastes with recoverable hydrocarbons. According to Tradebe, the TDUs can accept a broad range of hazardous wastes including paint waste, rags, resins, polymers, plastics, production debris, and discarded commercial chemicals. Many other types of hazardous wastes are available on-site and no permit or other restrictions apply to the waste feed. It is essential for a RCRA-regulated thermal treatment facility to restrict the composition of the feed so that emissions of hazardous chemical compounds do not exceed prescribed emission limits. A RCRA permit is required so that appropriate feed limits can be established for the TDUs. This is particularly important because, while some of these wastes may yield organics for recovery, the remaining waste materials are thermally destroyed in the TDUs' heated rotating drums, while non-condensable gases are burned in flares that are an integral part of the disposal operation.
3. There are no operating parameter limits on temperature, oxygen, or other conditions to assure that emissions are controlled. Tradebe claims that the TDUs are operated in an "anaerobic atmosphere," but there are no permit limits or other restrictions on oxygen concentration and no public monitoring reports. EPA has stated in technical papers that oxygen levels in thermal desorption units must be maintained at less than 2 percent to limit combustion. *How to Evaluate Alternative Cleanup Technologies for Underground Storage Tank Sites, Chapter VI: Low-Temperature Thermal Desorption* (EPA 510-B-95-007). Only through the engineering review and comprehensive performance testing that are part of a RCRA permit can appropriate operating parameter limits (OPLs) be established for the TDUs to assure

continuing compliance with emission limits. Currently no permit limits or other regulatory controls address these parameters.

4. The fact that the TDUs produce a large volume of char demonstrates that RCRA-regulated thermal destruction is occurring. EPA asserted in the Rineco case, and the court agreed, that the fact that the Rineco TDU produced a residual char for disposal “indicates that the destruction of organic materials takes place” *U.S. v. Rineco*, 2009 WL 801608 at 9. Likewise, the Tradebe TDUs produce a substantial volume of char, which alone is conclusive evidence that thermal destruction of hazardous wastes is occurring. According to a state inspection report, Tradebe generates approximately 10 to 13 roll-offs of char from the TDUs per week depending upon operations. IDEM Inspection Report (Jan. 7, 2016), IDEM Doc. # 80205392. The char itself must be classified as a hazardous waste under EPA’s derived-from rule because it is generated from the treatment and disposal of listed hazardous wastes. 40 CFR §261.3(c). Therefore, the char must meet the treatment standards in 40 CFR Part 268 applicable to the hazardous wastes that are thermally destroyed in the TDUs prior to land disposal in a RCRA-permitted landfill. Based upon information and belief, Tradebe disposes of char at landfills without meeting the treatment standards and land disposal prohibitions of RCRA.
5. The TDUs vent non-condensed hazardous waste gases to flares for combustion as an integral part of their operation, classifying the entire unit as RCRA-regulated thermal treatment. A significant portion of the gas stream from processing hazardous wastes in the TDUs is not recovered, but instead is directed as a non-condensed gas to flares where it is burned. The flares are enclosed devices that use “controlled flame combustion” to destroy organics and therefore are engaged in incineration. The Tradebe TDUs are designed to intentionally drive volatile gases off the hazardous waste and then use the flares as an integral part of the process to combust those gases which are non-condensable. That is different from other units (e.g., tanks) that use flares to control gases which are incidental and not deliberately formed as a primary element of their operation. The court in *U.S. v. Rineco* found that venting of vapor/inerts to a similar TDU constituted “burning and incineration” in violation of RCRA. 2009 WL 801608 at 9. No emission limits for hazardous air pollutants, such as dioxin/furans, hydrochloric acid, mercury and other listed toxic metals apply to the Tradebe TDUs’ flare emissions. In fact, Tradebe’s Title V Permit only requires that the flares achieve a destruction and removal efficiency (DRE) of 98 percent. RCRA regulations, on the other hand, require that the incineration of hazardous wastes achieve a DRE of 99.99%. 40 CFR § 264.343(a)(1). Thus, the Tradebe TDUs may emit hazardous air pollutants at an amount more than two orders of magnitude greater than regulatory standards and a RCRA permit would allow.

Based on all the foregoing, Tradebe is engaged in the RCRA-regulated thermal destruction of hazardous wastes in the TDUs, and the land disposal of residual char that is a derived-from hazardous waste, in violation of the permitting requirements, air emission standards, and regulatory conditions of RCRA.

## Tradebe's TDUs do not qualify for the "recycling process" exemption

Contrary to Tradebe's customer brochures, the TDUs do not qualify for the exemption from RCRA regulations as a "recycling process" under 40 CFR § 261.6(c)(1). First, even assuming the exemption was available for the recovery of organics, the exemption cannot extend to the aspect of the TDU operation that involves the thermal destruction of hazardous wastes. Some recovery of organics does not mean that the substantial treatment and thermal destruction of hazardous wastes in the TDUs is exempt from RCRA permit requirements.

This is exactly what the court ruled in the Rineco case. The court found that the Rineco TDU did not qualify for the recycling exemption in § 261.6(c)(1) "because substantial hazardous wastes that are treated in the [unit] are destroyed by thermal treatment and not recycled in the [unit]." 2009 WL 801608 at 8. The court cited EPA's own explanation in a regulatory preamble:

[W]e wish to clarify that materials being burned in... thermal treatment devices... are considered to be abandoned by being burned or incinerated under §261.2(a)(1)(ii), whether or not energy or material recovery also occurs.... In our view, any such burning ... is waste destruction subject to regulation either under Subpart O of Part 264 or Subpart O and P of Part 265. If energy or material recovery occurs, it is ancillary to the purpose of the unit – to destroy wastes by means of thermal treatment – and so does not alter the regulatory status of the device or the activity [2009 WL 801608 at 8, quoting 48 Fed. Reg. 14472, 14484 (1983) (internal quotes omitted)].

As described above, at least 25 percent of the hazardous waste feed to the Tradebe TDUs is disposed by thermal treatment, and "any such burning" is RCRA-regulated thermal treatment that does not qualify for the § 261.6(c)(1) exemption.

Second, a major part of Tradebe's business is the blending and processing of hazardous wastes into fuels for burning in cement kilns. Tradebe itself admits that the oil, char, and other residuals from the TDUs are directed into their fuel blending operations. For example, Tradebe's brochures states: "After processing [in the TDUs], a portion of the residual material can be beneficially used in energy recovery." Tradebe Brochure, Attachment D, p.2. However, EPA's regulations are clear that hazardous wastes are not subject to the recycling exemption but are regulated under RCRA permit requirements when "burned for energy recovery in boilers and industrial furnaces [BIFs]" 40 CFR §261.6(a)(2). Because Tradebe processes hazardous wastes in the TDUs and then uses the residuals to produce fuels that are "burned for energy recovery" in cement kilns, the exemption from RCRA permitting for recycling operations is not available.

This was another major holding in the Rineco case. The court carefully analyzed the regulatory language in § 261.6, finding that "recyclable materials, i.e., hazardous wastes burned for energy recovery in BIFs" are not subject to the recycling process exemption, "but instead are regulated under Subparts C through H of Part 266." 2009 WL 801608 at 6. Under Subpart H, "[o]wners and operators of facilities that store or treat hazardous waste that is burned in a boiler or industrial furnace are subject to the applicable provisions of Sections 264, 265, and 270 of this



regulation.” *Id.* The Subpart H regulations provide that “[t]hese standards apply to storage and treatment by the burner as well as to storage and treatment facilities operated by intermediaries (processors, blenders, distributors, etc.) between the generator and the burner.” *Id.* (emphasis added).

Just like Rineco, Tradebe is an intermediary fuel blender that treats hazardous wastes in the TDUs that are then blended and burned for energy recovery in BIFs. Therefore, the exemption set forth in §261.6(c)(1) for recycling processes is inapplicable to Tradebe.

As the court ruled in the Rineco case, a contrary ruling would mean:

[A]ny hazardous waste treatment unit that processed an incidental amount of recovered material that is not burned for energy recovery would qualify for the recycling exemption. Such an interpretation is contrary to the regulations and RCRA’s purpose to ensure the proper treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste so as to minimize the present and future threat to human health and the environment” 2009 WL 801608 at 8.

#### **EPA Region 6 Determination Letter**

The Rineco case resulted from an enforcement action taken by EPA Region 6. In addition, EPA Region 6 recently issued a letter of clarification on May 2, 2016, regarding the hazardous waste regulatory standards for TDUs installed at RCRA treatment, storage and disposal facilities (TSDFs) ( Attachment E). This letter states in part:

If a TDU combusts all or a portion of the vent gas, combustion of the TDU vent gas from RCRA hazardous waste or recyclable materials [40 C.F.R. §261.6(a)(1)] is considered thermal treatment that is regulated by RCRA. The material being treated (oil-bearing hazardous waste) is already a hazardous waste. Heating hazardous wastes to a gaseous state is subject to regulation under RCRA as treatment of hazardous waste, and thermal treatment after a material becomes a hazardous waste is fully regulated under RCRA. 54 Fed. Reg. 50968, 50973 (December 11, 1989). Thus, thermal treatment of the vent gas requires a RCRA permit.

If the vent gas is combusted in the combustion chamber of the TDU, then a permit under 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart O is required, because the TDU would meet the definition of incinerator in 40 C.F.R. §260.10 (an enclosed device that uses controlled flame combustion). If, on the other hand, the vent gas is vented to and combusted in a thermal oxidizing unit (TOU), the permitting authority may be able to permit the entire unit (TDU and TOU) as a miscellaneous unit under 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart X. A RCRA permit would be required even if the facility is operating as a RCRA exempt recycling activity under 40 C.F.R. §261.6(a)(3)(iv)(C). If the permitting authority decides to issue a 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subpart X permit, the permitting authority is required to include in the

permit requirements from 40 C.F.R. Part 264, Subparts I through O, AA, BB, and CC, 40 C.F.R. Part 270, 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart EEE, and 40 C.F.R. Part 146 that are appropriate for the miscellaneous unit being permitted as required in 40 C.F.R. §264.601.

In short, the Region 6 letter clearly states that TDUs which are combusting all or a portion of the TDU vent gas are required to obtain a RCRA permit for such treatment units, and they are required to comply with the HWC MACT in addition to other standards.

### **Previous efforts to obtain EPA review and action**

This letter is not the first attempt that we have made to prompt EPA into enacting a consistent compliance policy towards TDUs like the Tradebe units. In 2006, ETC submitted letters to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and EPA Region 5 objecting to the apparent RCRA-exempt recycling status of the initial TDU at the Tradebe facility (then operated by Pollution Control Industries, Tradebe's predecessor corporation). In 2010, ETC again submitted a letter to EPA Region 5 seeking a determination on PCI's claim that the TDU was an exempt unit. During 2014, ETC learned that Tradebe was installing a second TDU and in 2015 ETC submitted adverse comments to Region 5 and IDEM on their draft air permit modification which would allow the new TDU to operate. IDEM issued a final air permit modification approval to Tradebe, ignoring ETC's comments, and Region 5 issued its decision in support of IDEM's approval. Consequently, on June 12, 2015, ETC filed a Clean Air Act petition under 40 CFR § 70.8 with Region 5, objecting to the issuance of the air permit modification to Tradebe. To date, more than a year later, EPA Region 5 has not responded to the ETC petition.

### **Notice of intent to file a RCRA Citizen Suit**

After greater than 10 years, ETC is now running out of options to encourage Region 5 to regulate the Tradebe TDUs in a manner consistent with other hazardous waste processing TDUs (i.e., insure they are RCRA permitted and comply with the HWC MACT standards). A legal option that ETC has considered is to submit a citizen suit notice letter under RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6972(a), of intent to file suit against the Administrator for failure to perform her non-discretionary duties and against Tradebe for violation of the requirement to obtain a RCRA permit for treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes in its TDUs. Last year the Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC), an environmental group in Indiana, conducted the first comprehensive assessment of environmental justice in the East Chicago, Indiana, region where the Tradebe facility is located, documenting that the community has "long suffered a hugely disproportionate share of Indiana's pollution burden" *Assessment of Environmental Justice Needs In Northern Lake County Communities*, <http://www.hecweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/HEC-Assessment-of-EJ-Needs-in-Northern-Lake-County-Communities-FINAL-REPORT2.pdf>, at p. 6. If the Tradebe TDUs were required to obtain a RCRA permit, the East Chicago community would have an opportunity for their environmental justice concerns to be taken into account pursuant to EPA's published guidance on consideration of environmental justice in permitting.



In an attempt to avoid the need to pursue a RCRA citizen suit, ETC is now requesting a meeting with you and your senior staff as a final measure in the hopes of trying to initiate concrete actions that would bring Tradebe into the same permitting and regulatory compliance protocols that other commercial TDUs must meet.

In conclusion, I intend to follow-up with you to set up the requested meeting so that we can discuss actions that will resolve our concerns, while ensuring a consistent compliance policy by EPA with regards to hazardous waste TDUs.

Respectfully submitted,



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Executive Director and General Counsel  
Environmental Technology Council  
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Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 783-0870 ext. 201  
Email: [dcase@etc.org](mailto:dcase@etc.org)

# SOLIDS DISTILLATION SYSTEM (SDS)

Attachment A

## About SDS Technology

TRADEBE's Solids Distillation System (SDS), is a positive step forward in sustainable waste recycling technology.

SDS offers generators an effective and cost-efficient method for recycling organic solid waste that might otherwise be disposed of.

Prior to SDS technology, most organic hazardous waste solids were incinerated in a process designed to destroy the organic content by driving off volatiles and burning excess gases.

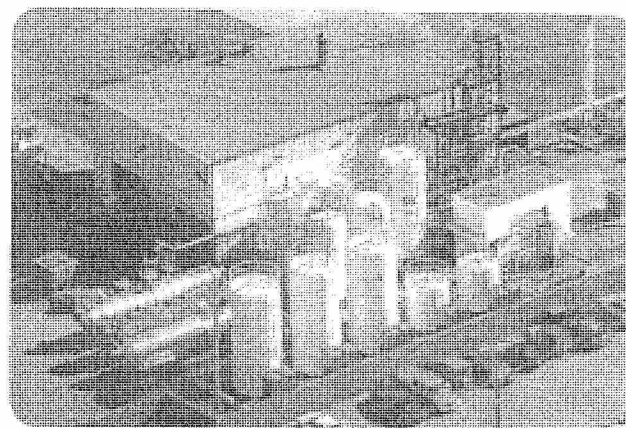
Alternatively, SDS extracts the organics from hazardous waste solids to recover a viable product.

SDS recycled products are used now in numerous industries throughout the US in place of virgin chemicals.

SDS is a multi-stage process including waste container conveyance and shredding, indirect thermal desorption, scrap metal recycling and distillation of recovered organic liquids.

**Wastes suitable for SDS include:**

Paints, Resins,  
Polymers,  
Solvent-soaked Rags,  
and other  
Organic Debris



TRADEBE's SDS operations in East Chicago, IN

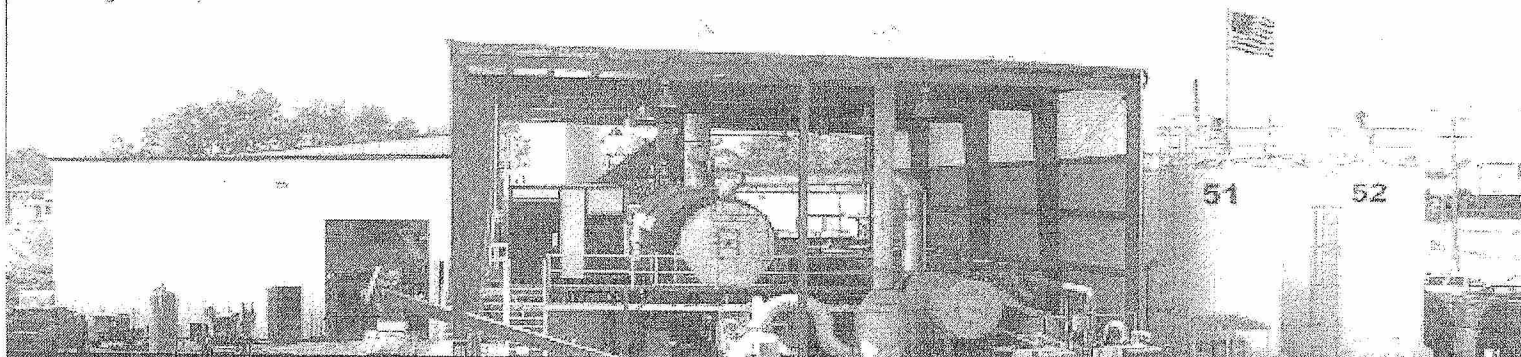
## SDS<sup>2</sup>

TRADEBE introduced the original SDS technology in 2004 to address the growing need for recycling of hazardous wastes.

Due to growing demands of the industrial waste market, TRADEBE designed and built a second SDS unit during 2014-2015.

This additional unit is SDS<sup>2</sup>.

SDS<sup>2</sup> enhanced technology, with new safety standards, offers the same environmental benefits as the original SDS unit; with twice the capacity to produce a quality reclaimed product.



### Contact Details:

Phone: (800) 388-7242 Nationwide  
(888) 276-0887 Northeast & 24-hour Emergency Response

Email: [us.cs@tradebe.com](mailto:us.cs@tradebe.com) Web: [www.tradebeusa.com](http://www.tradebeusa.com)



TRADEBE

Sustainability at Work

# SDS<sup>2</sup> - Sustainable Waste Recycling



## SDS<sup>2</sup> Benefits

### True Recycling Technology

The hazardous waste processed through SDS is recycled - receiving the waste management handling code H020, Solvents Recovery (distillation, extraction); and may be eligible for recycling credits with state regulatory agencies.

### Versatility

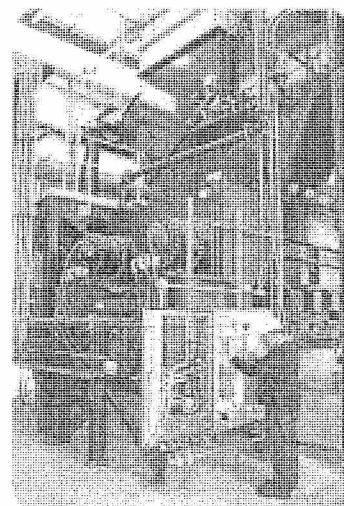
Waste can be received in various size containers from small cans to cubic yard boxes. Metal, plastic and fiber drums are processed with equal efficiency, eliminating costly and potentially unsafe handling and repackaging on site at generator locations.

### Reliability

With the addition of the SDS<sup>2</sup> unit, the SDS total production capacity has increased from 12,000 tons per year to 36,000 tons per year.

## SDS<sup>2</sup> Facts

- SDS promotes recycling, reclamation and reuse.
- SDS reclaims valuable constituents found in solid hazardous waste and reduces the demand for virgin chemicals.
- SDS conserves energy while keeping waste out of the environment.

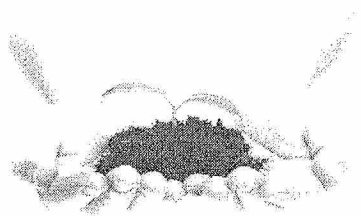


## SDS Annual Stats

Scrap Metal Reclaimed : 7,000+ Tons

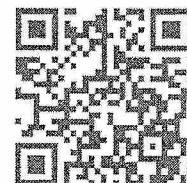
Solvents Recycled for Reuse : 2,750,000+ Gals

SDS Haz Waste Received & Processed : 36,000+ Tons



Scan to Watch SDS Now >

<http://vimeo.com/tradebe/tradebe-sds>



How are we doing?

Please visit us online to take our client satisfaction survey:  
[www.tradebeusa.com/survey](http://www.tradebeusa.com/survey)



TRADEBE

Sustainability at Work

2009 WL 801608

Only the Westlaw citation is currently available.  
United States District Court,  
E.D. Arkansas,  
Western Division.

UNITED STATES of America, Plaintiff,  
v.  
RINECO CHEMICAL  
INDUSTRIES, INC., Defendant.

No. 4:07cv001189 SWW.

|  
March 4, 2009.

West KeySummary

1 **Environmental Law**

⚡ **Permits, Licenses, and Approvals**

Hazardous waste facility through its activities in recycling metals that contained hazardous waste materials was not eligible for the recycling process exemption and the facility was, therefore, operating in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") by its failure to obtain the required permit. The facility argued that because the material it recycled was metal and the metal was never burned for energy recovery that the regulation did not apply. However, a substantial percentage of oil and char resulting from the metal reclamation process was blended into hazardous waste derived fuel ("HWDF") and sold to boiler and industrial furnaces ("BIFs") where it was burned for energy recovery. Thus, the facility was considered an intermediary fuel blender that was subject to the permit requirements of the RCRA. Solid Waste Disposal Act, § 3005(a), 42 U.S.C.A. § 6925(a); APCEC Regulation No. 23, §§ 261.6 (a) and (c), 270.1.

Cases that cite this headnote

**Attorneys and Law Firms**

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Heather M. Corken, Jeffrey D. Palmer, Fulbright & Jaworski, Houston, TX, Kevin A. Crass, Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP, Little Rock, AR, for Defendant.

**MEMORANDUM AND ORDER**

SUSAN WEBBER WRIGHT, District Judge.

\*1 The United States of America brings this civil action against Rineco Chemical Industries, Inc. ("Rineco") under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 *et seq.* The United States seeks injunctive relief and civil penalties against Rineco for violations of RCRA Sections 3005(a) and 3010, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6925(a) and 6930, and Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission ("APCEC") Regulation No. 23, which incorporates federal regulations approved by the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") pursuant to RCRA that are part of the federally-enforceable State hazardous waste program relating to the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, handling, and disposal of hazardous waste.

Now before the Court are cross-motions of the parties for summary judgment [doc. # 's 13, 40] to which responses and replies have been filed. The Court held a hearing on these motions at the request of Rineco on September 4, 2008, and the matter is now ripe for decision. For the reasons that follow, the Court grants the United States' motion for summary judgment [doc. # 40] and denies Rineco's motion for summary judgment [doc. # 13].<sup>1</sup>

I.

A.

RCRA is a comprehensive environmental statute that governs the treatment, storage, and disposal of solid waste. *Meghrig v. KFC Western, Inc.*, 516 U.S. 479, 483, 116 S.Ct. 1251, 134 L.Ed.2d 121 (1996) (citation omitted).



RCRA's primary purpose is to reduce the generation of hazardous waste and to ensure the proper treatment, storage, and disposal of that waste which is nonetheless generated "so as to minimize the present and future threat to human health and the environment." *Id.* (quoting 42 U.S.C. § 6902(b)).

RCRA's Subtitle C, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6921 *et seq.*, establishes a "cradle-to-grave" regulatory system for the treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous wastes. *Cement Kiln Recycling Coalition v. E.P.A.*, 493 F.3d 207, 211 (C.A.D.C.2007) (citations and internal quotation marks omitted). This system operates through a combination of national standards established by EPA regulations, and a permit program in which permitting authorities—either EPA or states that have hazardous waste programs authorized by EPA—apply those national standards to particular facilities. *Id.*

Permits are generally required under RCRA for any facility that engages in the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste. *United States v. Manning*, 434 F.Supp.2d 988, 998 (E.D.Wash.2006). Section 3005(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6925, establishes a case-by-case permitting process. *Cement Kiln Recycling Coalition*, 493 F.3d at 211-12. Section 3005(a) directs EPA to promulgate regulations requiring each person owning or operating an existing facility that engages in the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste, or planning to construct a new facility that engages in the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste to have a permit pursuant to this section. *Id.* at 212 (quoting 42 U.S.C. § 6925(a)). Pursuant to Section 3005(a), EPA promulgated regulation 40 C.F.R. § 270.1(b), which provides that "[s]ix months after the initial promulgation of the part 261 regulations [Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste], treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste by any person who has not applied for or received a RCRA permit is prohibited." *See also United States v. Heuer*, 4 F.3d 723, 730 (9th Cir.1993) ("It is fundamental that an entity which performs a hazardous waste activity for which a permit is required under RCRA may not legally perform that activity unless it has a permit for the relevant activity").

\*2 As indicated previously, pursuant to RCRA subsection 3006(b), EPA may authorize a state to administer and enforce its own hazardous waste program, so long as the state program is equivalent to and consistent

with EPA's program and provides adequate compliance and enforcement measures. 42 U.S.C. § 6926(b). When a state obtains such authorization, the state hazardous waste program operates "in lieu" of the federal program. *Id.*

The State of Arkansas received final authorization to enforce its hazardous waste program on January 25, 1985. 40 C.F.R. § 272.201(a).<sup>2</sup> The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") is the state agency primarily responsible for carrying out this authority in the State of Arkansas.<sup>3</sup> During the time Arkansas has been authorized to administer the RCRA hazardous waste program, facilities in that state have been regulated under the provisions of APCEC Regulation No. 23, which has adopted and incorporated verbatim from the federal RCRA regulations.<sup>4</sup>

Despite having authorized a state to act, EPA frequently files its own enforcement actions against suspected environmental violators, even after the commencement of a state-initiated enforcement action (a process known as overfiling). *Harmon Indus., Inc. v. Browner*, 191 F.3d 894, 898 (8th Cir.1999).<sup>5</sup> Before initiating any such action, however, RCRA requires that EPA give the authorized state prior notice. RCRA Section 3008(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)(2).

## B.

Rineco owns and operates a facility in Benton, Arkansas that is engaged in the generation, treatment, and storage of hazardous waste. Rineco is the largest single-site hazardous waste fuel blending facility in the United States and receives more than 400 different types of listed and characteristic solid phase and liquid phase hazardous wastes at its facility from a large number of generators of hazardous waste.<sup>6</sup>

Rineco applied for and obtained a permit to operate a hazardous waste management facility at its Benton facility, RCRA Permit No. 28H-M001. Located at this facility is a Thermal Metal Wash Recycling Unit ("TMW"). The TMW is protected by Rineco Patent No. 7,341,155 B2 ("Patent"), which "relates generally to waste processing, and more particularly to systems and methods

for processing heterogeneous waste materials.” As noted in the Patent,

[i]ndustry produces large amounts of waste that must be processed and disposed of by waste operators. Most of this waste is heterogeneous waste, which includes liquids and solids, which is friable and non-friable, which melts at various temperatures, has various solidification temperatures, low auto-ignition temperatures, and high vapor pressure. The waste material also includes ferrous and non-ferrous metals in a wide range of sizes. This waste is often categorized by applicable environmental regulations as “hazardous waste” because of its flammable, corrosive, or toxic nature. Thus, the disposal of such waste is heavily regulated by environmental regulations.

\*3 There are inefficiencies associated with currently-available processes for disposing of industrial waste. Thus, a heretofore unaddressed need exists in the industry for systems and methods of processing waste materials.

The original TMW began operation in June 2003 and ceased operation in July 2004. The current TMW commenced operation in March 2005. The operation of both the original and the new TMW are similar, the main difference being, states Rineco, that the external heat source for the original TMW was natural gas while the external heat source for the new TMW is electricity and circulating hot oil.

The operation of the TMW, which does not have a RCRA permit, is at the center of the United States' claims in this action. The United States claims the primary purpose of the TMW is to convert a chemical soup of hazardous waste streams into hazardous waste derived fuel (“HWDF”) for sale to boiler and industrial furnaces (“BIFs”), an activity it claims requires a RCRA permit. Rineco, however, claims the TMW is designed to recycle metal from hazardous and non-hazardous materials, an activity it claims is exempt from regulation and does not require a RCRA permit.

Prior to constructing the TMW at its facility, Rineco inquired of ADEQ concerning the TMW's permitting requirements. By letter dated January 10, 2003, ADEQ informed Rineco that it had made a regulatory determination regarding the TMW based on the following assumptions:

- The unit's intended purpose is to recycle metal contaminated with hazardous waste and recover scrap metal from Rineco's waste stream.
- No scrap metal from this unit will be blended into Rineco's fuel or otherwise disposed. The scrap metal will be recycled.
- The waste entering the auger contains metal contaminated with hazardous waste.
- The hazardous waste/constituents leaving the process will be handled properly as hazardous waste.
- The auger used in the process does not grind the hazardous waste entering the system; the auger only moves the waste stream.
- This unit is not intended to decontaminate containers.

ADEQ stated that “[b]ased on these assumptions, the processing unit does not require a permit, at this time” but that “the hopper may be considered a storage unit requiring a permit if the waste stream remains in the hopper for any period of time.” *Id.* ADEQ went on to state that “[t]his determination is based on information submitted by Rineco for this specific unit for a specific use; the exemption does not apply to a different unit or may not apply if this unit is not utilized as intended, and in accordance with the above assumptions.” *Id.*

On February 21, 2003, ADEQ sent a letter to Rineco clarifying at the request of Rineco its position on “scrap metal contaminated with hazardous waste.” ADEQ stated that scrap metal, in and of itself, is exempt from hazardous waste regulation. However, ADEQ also stated “when scrap metal is mixed with non-scrap metal material (*i.e.* listed or characteristic hazardous waste), the mixture would not be considered a scrap metal and the entire mixture would be subject to regulation.”

\*4 By letter dated July 20, 2004, ADEQ informed Rineco that it had reason to believe that the TMW was

not being operated in a manner that conforms to a regulatory based exclusion from hazardous waste management permitting. Based on the information gathered during our investigation and observations we find that the material being processed in the unit is a mixture of hazardous waste and shredded metal.

Therefore, the entire mixture is a hazardous waste. This unit is therefore subject to permitting as a hazardous waste management unit.

This letter shall serve as notice to Rineco that the introduction of hazardous waste to the [TMW] must cease immediately. Operation of the [TMW] that does not strictly conform to the January 10, 2003 and February 21, 2003 letters must be suspended until such time as this issue is resolved.

On July 30, 2004, after meeting with Rineco, Marcus Devine ("Devine"), then-Director of ADEQ, wrote to the company stating that

[t]his letter affirms that the regulatory interpretation provided to Rineco in ADEQ's letters dated January 10 and February 21, 2003, reflect our current position on the issue. Our position, in brief, is that the TMW does not require a Hazardous Waste Management permit provided it is operated in the manner and for the specific purpose that Rineco described in their request for confirmation of this determination. Of course, the assumptions ADEQ stated in the January 10, 2003, letter and further clarified in the February 21, 2003, letter must remain valid, otherwise ADEQ may choose to revisit its position on the regulatory status of the unit.

On January 13, 2005, ADEQ sent a letter to Rineco stating that ADEQ had been informed that the TMW had been removed and, if Rineco had constructed a new TMW, ADEQ had to be officially notified to determine the regulatory status of the new unit. On February 2, 2005, Rineco confirmed that it had revised the TMW and expected the new TMW to be in full production shortly.

On February 9, 2005, Devine wrote to Rineco indicating that he was "disturbed to learn that Rineco has not informed the [ADEQ] staff of the details of this new/revised process," and that "[t]he regulatory determination by this agency in January 2003 was strictly limited to the unit addressed by the determination letter and limited in

scope based on the nature of the operation as described at the time the determination was made." ADEQ required Rineco to provide a variety of information describing the operation of the revised unit in order to make a regulatory determination.

On March 22-24, 2005, EPA conducted an inspection of the Rineco facility. The purpose of this inspection was to evaluate Rineco's systems and methods for processing waste materials and facility compliance with RCRA. On June 28, 2005, EPA conducted a followup inspection of the Rineco facility because the TMW was not operating during the first inspection. The purpose of the second inspection was to evaluate the incoming and outgoing streams from Rineco's TMW.

\*5 Based on the March 22nd-24th and June 28th inspections and documentation provided by Rineco, EPA determined that the TMW is a thermal treatment device that applies heat (over 1000 degrees Fahrenheit) to vaporize hydrocarbons and water and thereby change the physical and chemical composition of the hazardous waste fed into the unit, by separating the waste into six waste streams after treatment in the unit: water, oil, char, metal, vapor, and "inerts."<sup>7</sup> EPA states that solid and liquid phase wastes are placed in the TMW on a moving conveyor and that materials are then heated in an oxygen-limited chamber using an external heat source to vaporize hydrocarbons and water, and reduce the cohesiveness of the solid and liquid waste material. Vapors are then condensed and cooled, states EPA, and condensed vapors are passed through the oil-water separators to recover liquid hydrocarbons; the recovered hydrocarbons, along with other liquid waste, are transferred to the hydropulper where they are mixed into HWDF. Non-condensable vapors, states EPA, are combined and vented to a thermal oxidation unit ("TOU") for destruction, while solids exit the heated chamber where the materials are cooled, and the cooled material enters a vibratory screen and magnet train that separates the metal from the char. EPA states that the metal is discharged via a conveyor to dump trucks for possible sale and that the char is transferred to the hydropulper where it is mixed, along with the liquid waste, into fuel for sale to BIFs, including cement kilns. The United States argues that the TMW, far from being designed for recycling metal, is an integral part of a fuel blending activity.

Rineco, in turn, states that the TMW is a relatively simple device designed to recycle metal from hazardous and non-hazardous materials. Rineco states that metal-containing materials are placed in the TMW on a moving conveyor and that materials are then heated in an oxygen-depleted chamber via an external heat source to break the adhesive bonds of the materials that are attached to the surface of the metal. By heating the material, states Rineco, the adhesive bonds are broken, and the material separates from the metal. Rineco states the condensable vapors are captured and sent through a series of condensers/scrubbers, which cool the vapors, remove entrained solids, and carry them back in a liquid form, while the solids are sent through a series of cooling screws, vibrating screens, and magnets to further separate the metal from other inert materials. The final product of the TMW, states Rineco, is clean metal, which is sold to third parties, and all of the other separated materials (solids, liquids, and gases) are handled in accordance with RCRA and the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.* With respect to these other separated materials-or output-from the TMW, Rineco acknowledges that the oil and char wind up in cement kilns where they are burned for energy recovery.

\*6 Two months after EPA's March 2005 inspection, Devine, on April 12, 2005, stated in a one-sentence letter that "I have determined that the unit at the Rineco facility known as the Thermal Metal Wash Recycling Unit does not require a hazardous waste management permit pursuant to the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Regulation No. 23, § 261.6(c)(1)."<sup>8</sup> EPA, however, states that a substantial percentage of oil and char resulting from the treatment process in the TMW is blended into HWDF and provided to BIFs where it is burned for energy recovery and that this activity requires a RCRA permit. EPA states Rineco's RCRA Permit No. 28H-M001 does not include the treatment, storage, or disposal activities connected with the TMW, and that it has asked Rineco to apply for a modification of its RCRA permit to include such activities but that Rineco has not done so. This action followed.<sup>9</sup>

## II.

The United States asserts five claims for relief in its original complaint concerning operation of the TMW: (1) unauthorized operation of RCRA treatment unit; (2) unauthorized operation of RCRA storage unit; (3)

unauthorized operation of RCRA disposal unit; (4) failure to notify of hazardous waste activity; and (5) failure to provide financial assurances. Rineco moves for summary judgment on each of those claims, its central argument being that the TMW does not require a RCRA permit as the TMW is engaged in the recycling process and, thus exempt from regulation under APCEC Regulation No. 23 § 261.6(c)(1). The United States likewise moves for summary judgment on each of the claims asserted in its original complaint, asserting that two separate grounds entitle it to summary judgment, either of which it states is sufficient for the United States to prevail: first, Rineco's hazardous waste activities are not eligible for the recycling process exemption as a matter of law because, under APCEC Regulation No. 23 § 261.6(a), as an intermediary to a BIF, Rineco is not eligible for the recycling exemption set forth in APCEC Regulation No. 23 § 261.6(c)(1); second, Rineco is not engaged in a recycling activity in the TMW and cannot qualify for the recycling exemption because when waste materials are abandoned by disposal, burning or incineration, they are not recycled. Both parties argue there are no genuine issues of material fact with respect to these issues and that each is entitled to summary judgment as a matter of law.

### A.

Summary judgment is appropriate when "the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." Fed.R.Civ.P. 56(c). As a prerequisite to summary judgment, a moving party must demonstrate "an absence of evidence to support the non-moving party's case." *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 325, 106 S.Ct. 2548, 91 L.Ed.2d 265 (1986). Once the moving party has properly supported its motion for summary judgment, the nonmoving party must "do more than simply show there is some metaphysical doubt as to the material facts." *Matsushita Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith Radio*, 475 U.S. 574, 586, 106 S.Ct. 1348, 89 L.Ed.2d 538 (1986). The nonmoving party may not rest on mere allegations or denials of his pleading, but must "come forward with 'specific facts showing that there is a *genuine issue for trial*.'" *Id.* at 587 (quoting Fed.R.Civ.P. 56(e) and adding emphasis). See also *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 242, 256, 106 S.Ct. 2505, 91 L.Ed.2d 202